

FIFTY YEARS OF PROGRESS.

THE JUBILEE
OF
H O N G K O N G
AS A
BRITISH CROWN COLONY,
BEING AN
HISTORICAL SKETCH.
TO WHICH IS ADDED AN ACCOUNT OF
THE CELEBRATIONS
OF
21ST TO 24TH JANUARY, 1891.

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HONGKONG JUBILEE.

21ST-24TH JANUARY, 1891.

To-day we commence the celebration of the completion of the fifty years during which Hongkong has been a British possession, and the occasion is not inappropriate for making some reflections on the position which we occupy after this period of British administration. Politically speaking the fifty years that have elapsed are one continuous justification of the policy which inspired the acquisition and determined the groundwork of its hold. After some years of doubt and uncertainty, in which the most gloomy views as to its future were entertained, Hongkong before long blossomed out into the full-blown importance of the commercial pre-eminence which she still maintains and which, so long as conditions exist as they are, she is likely to maintain and increase. There is something peculiarly romantic and interesting both in the history and surroundings of this curious island, and its condition now, after fifty years of British tenure, as compared with its state after the thousands of years during which it was under Chinese rule, is a curious commentary on the relative characteristics of Western and Oriental enterprise. Hongkong is in a manner the ambassador for Western commerce in the East, and under the shelter of a strong and enlightened flag it has become the starting point and the home of the numberless enterprises that the energy of

European races and the commercial aptitude of the Chinese are continually inaugurating. In scarcely any other part of the world would there be any *raison d'être* for its existence, but in the presence of an exclusive empire conscious of the advantages of commerce but jealous of the slightest encroachment upon its seclusion, its existence is a matter of the first necessity. The attitude of the Chinese Government towards Europeans has been the outcome of centuries of isolation from types of civilization superior to its own, and every step towards bringing into line the ordinary intercourse of people between people has been harassed and thwarted by the exalted attitude which the Chinese Government assumes. It is barely over fifty years since the claim of the representative of Great Britain to correspond direct on equal terms with the Viceroy of the Two Kwang, and not by way of petition through the Hong Merchants, created a tension which found relief only in an appeal to arms. It is the direct result of the acquisition of this island that the abandonment of a position which the logic of facts and the flux of time has proved to be untenable is being gradually but silently effected without outrage to the susceptibilities of this proud and exclusive Empire. Hongkong acts as a lightning conductor to dissipate and neutralise the impact of highly electrical tendencies of

opposite character. It has the British Empire behind it, and the consciousness of this security gives free play to the harmonising effects of unrestricted commercial intercourse and adds weight to the position of the Minister at Peking. The great Bank that oils the wheels of commerce and of enterprise in our midst is possible only through the security afforded by the prestige attaching to a British possession, and it may be confidently foretold that so long as China remains unopened and inaccessible the political importance of Hongkong must continue to be paramount.

Apart, however, from its political importance and commercial value, Hongkong is also interesting as a test of the adaptability of British institutions to a very abnormal state of things. The British flag shelters under it in this Colony a population drawn almost exclusively from the confines of the enormous empire of China and within constant and daily communication with one of its most important cities. Apart from the peculiar character of the Chinese and their antipathy to anything not originating in their own soil, the difficulty of ruling them is greatly augmented by the fact of the immediate proximity of Hongkong to the mainland, whereby a state of things is created against which the best intentioned Government is powerless to provide. When an expenditure of a few cents is sufficient at any hour of any day to enable a native of China to transfer his allegiance from one flag to the other, and when even the oldest residents here have their families and relations over the border, it is not possible to judge the effects of British rule by the standard which would be applicable to the same kind of population removed from the neighbourhood of China. A Chinaman himself is scarcely conscious that he is not on his own soil; he dubs Europeans as "devils" and "barbarians" in the streets of Hongkong with the same fervour of conviction with which the people of Canton so dub them in their own streets, and it never occurs to him that on British soil the real foreigners are those who are not British subjects. The proper test of British rule in a place like Hongkong is the extent to which it represents in a constitutional manner the local wants of its population while keeping its own predominance intact and prominent. Questions of finance, treatment of crime, prosecution of public works, and general administration are all included in this generalisation, and a system of Government that most completely satisfies its requirements is that which is best adapted to the Colony. By no Governor has this been more clearly recognised than by the late Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL. Every law passed in his time and every act done bears the impress of intelligent and systematic forethought, and every departure from his original scheme has impaired the efficiency of the Government. It is one of the drawbacks to what otherwise is an excellent arrangement that the limitation of the term of Governors prevents the proper consolidation of a scheme of Government requiring time for its development, and with the advent of new rulers details fall into abeyance, essential points are disregarded, and a new order of things arises requiring fresh elaboration and correction.

At the present moment we are bound to say that there is certainly room for improvement. In the course of fifty years of occupation a large population has sprung up with which the existing machinery of Government is inadequate to keep touch. Our public works administration has grown too large for effective supervision, our statute-book has become encumbered with too many laws, our criminal classes have been increased by a too liberal enactment of penal legislation, and our revenue is hampered with the uncertainty and anomalies attendant upon the Opium Farm monopoly. What is required is a scheme of Government in which will be represented the

requirements of the numerous conditions inseparable from an alien population brought up under different modes of treatment and habits of thought. In default of it there is always a danger, and especially with a population so capable of organisation as the Chinese, of the growth of *imperia in imperio* and a weakening of the central executive, which ought to be always rigidly maintained. The Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Judges, the Magistrates, and Departments represent the constitutional machinery by which British rule should be worked, and no doubt the policy of teaching the Chinese to regard any one department as specially concerned with their affairs deflects their attention from the proper gradations through which the theory of the constitution works, and is calculated to impair the efficiency of the executive and to encourage the growth of exotic institutions. We do not think that the Government could do better at the present time than to appoint a Commission to consider the best means of keeping in check and drawing into its counsels the whole of the Chinese population in such a way as to enhance the control of the central executive and lessen the friction that is constantly being innocently caused by inadequate knowledge of the Chinese and their ways. Few Governments are better intentioned than the British Government in their dealings with natives, and few Governments possess in a greater degree the genius of organisation in a liberal and conciliatory way. We are convinced therefore that the task of bringing into harmony, with a proper subjection to British rule, the varied and conflicting elements that abound in this Colony is not beyond the scope of the Government. We think further that it is a most necessary duty and that there is a real danger of the Chinese population in the course of time ceasing to be in touch with the executive, possibly to the endangerment of the peace of the Colony. Fortunately no such prospect is imminent or even remotely likely, nor would there be occasion for noticing it now, except that in reviewing the outcome of a period of novel experience one has to mark the tendencies and the direction in which they are setting. With proper provision for the future we think the Colony can be warmly congratulated on the past. Our relations with the mainland are excellent, our rule is not unacceptable to the Chinese, our social relations with them are constantly improving, and our free and liberal institutions find expression in every kind of individuality. In heartily congratulating the Colony on its Jubilee we desire also to congratulate His Excellency Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX on being Governor on the occasion and to express our hope that both for the Colony and for His Excellency there are many days of prosperity in store.

HONGKONG, 1841-1891.

So hath this waste of hills for ages lain
Obscure, inglorious, till a nation saw
And spoke, when bounding to the onward law
The rugged island heard, and now the train
Of the world's commerce to her shore doth draw,
And lifts her stately head the marvel of the main.
—*Mercer.*

To-day Hongkong celebrates its Jubilee. Not many places can show such a record of progress in fifty years, a barren island transformed into a busy commercial centre with a population of over two hundred thousand, a trade estimated at over £40,000,000, and with shipping entering its port of a total tonnage of over six million per annum. As has been truly said by Governor Sir William Des Vœux, it may be doubted whether the evidences of material and moral achievement, presented as it were in a focus, make anywhere a more forcible appeal to eye and imagination, and whether any other spot on the earth is thus more likely to excite, or much more fully justify, pride in the name of Englishman.

It is our pleasant duty to-day to give a sketch of the history of the Colony. It was on the 20th January, 1841, that Sir Charles Elliot's proclamation appeared notifying the conclusion of preliminary arrangements between the Imperial Commissioner Keshen and himself, one of the terms of which was "the cession of the island

and harbour of Hong-kong to the British crown." The events which led up to the acquisition of the island arose out of the arrogance of the Chinese authorities at Canton, to which port the whole of the foreign trade with China was at that time confined. Up to the year 1833 the British trade was in the hands of the East India Company, and business was conducted only with the Co-Hong, an Association of Chinese merchants. On the termination of the East India Company's monopoly and the opening of the trade, arrangements for the protection and control of British shipping and British subjects resorting to the dominions of the Emperor of China became necessary, and for this purpose an Act of Parliament was passed intitled "An Act to regulate the trade to China and India." There were for several months in the year not less than two thousand British subjects at Canton, Whampoa, Macao, and the immediately adjacent anchorages, and except in cases of homicide the Chinese Government did not interpose at all for the preservation of peace between them and their own people, or between the British subjects themselves. Accordingly by a commission dated the 10th December, 1833, Lord Napier, Mr. Plowden, and Mr. Davis, of whom the two latter were already on the spot, were appointed "Superintendents of the trade of British subjects in China," Lord Napier being the Chief Superintendent. By the Royal Instructions accompanying the Commission the Superintendents were directed to take up their residence in Canton. The spirit which was to guide them in the discharge of their duties was indicated as follows:—(Para. 18 of Royal Instructions.)

"And it is Our further pleasure that so often as it may be necessary for you, in conducting any such mediation as aforesaid, to prefer any complaint or remonstrance to the officers of the Government of China, you do observe all possible moderation, and do cautiously abstain from all unnecessary use of menacing language, or from making any appeal for protection to our military or naval forces unless, in any extreme case, the most evident necessity shall require that any such menacing language should be holden, or that any such appeal should be made. And We do further command and require you, in the general discharge of your duties as such Superintendents, to abstain from and avoid all such conduct, language, and demeanour, as might needlessly excite jealousy or distrust amongst the inhabitants of China, or the officers

of the Chinese Government; or as might unnecessarily irritate the feelings, or revolt the opinions or prejudices of the Chinese people or Government; and that you do study by all practicable methods to maintain a good and friendly understanding, both with the officers, civil and military, and with the inhabitants of China, with whom you may be brought into intercourse or communication."

In Lord Palmerston's despatch to Lord Napier, forwarding the Commission and Royal Instructions, the Chief Superintendent was directed to announce his arrival at Canton by letter to the Viceroy, and that in addition to the duty of protecting and fostering the trade of British subjects with the port of Canton, it would be one of his principal objects to ascertain whether it might not be practicable to extend that trade to other parts of the Chinese dominions, for the attainment of which object the establishment of direct communications with the Imperial Court at Peking would be desirable.

Lord Napier arrived at Macao, in the frigate *Andromache*, on the 15th July, 1834. In the absence of Mr. Plowden, Mr. Davis, who had previously been in the employ of the East India Company accepted the office of Second Superintendent, and Sir G. Best Robinson, Bart., that of Third Superintendent. Mr. Astell being appointed Secretary and Treasurer, the Rev. Dr. Morrison Chinese Secretary and Interpreter, and Captain C. Elliot, R.N., Master Attendant. On the 25th July the Superintendents arrived at Canton. What followed may be best described in Lord Napier's own words in his despatch to Lord Palmerston:—

"In obedience to His Majesty's commands, conveyed to me by your Lordship, of the date of the 25th January last, desiring me to announce my arrival at Canton by letter to the Viceroy, a letter, a copy of which is enclosed, was addressed to His Excellency the Viceroy, which, being rendered into Chinese by the Rev. Dr. Morrison, the Chinese Secretary and Interpreter, was carried to the City gates by Mr. Astell, accompanied by a deputation of gentlemen from the establishment.

"It may be here stated that during the interval employed in translating my letter, the Hong merchants, Honqua and Mowqua, arrived with the copy of an edict, addressed by the Viceroy to themselves, for the purpose of being enjoined on the Superintendent by their body. Long experience having already proved to the servants of the East India Company the utter futility of such a medium of communication, and the compliance therewith only tending to degrade His Majesty's Commission and the British public in general in the estimation of the Chinese people, and to render the exertions of the Superintendents to perform their various

duties altogether ineffectual, the Hong merchants were courteously dismissed with an intimation 'that I would communicate immediately with the Viceroy in the manner befitting His Majesty's commission and the honour of the British nation.'

Thereupon followed a series of tedious delays, the Viceroy refusing acceptance of the letter. Lord Napier, in a second despatch to the Secretary of State dated 14th August, urged the necessity of vigorous measures. He wrote:—

"I can have no hesitation at once in recommending His Majesty's Government to consult immediately on the best plan to be adopted for commanding a Commercial Treaty, or a Treaty which shall secure the just rights and embrace the interests, public and private, of all Europeans,—not of British alone, but of all civilized people coming to trade according to the principles of international law. I maintain that it will be as easy to work for the civilized world as for ourselves, and that it will be as easy to open the whole coast as any individual port."

"What advantage," Lord Napier goes on to ask, "or what point did we ever gain by negotiating or humbling ourselves before these people, or rather before their Government? The records show nothing but subsequent humiliation and disgrace. What advantage or what point, again, have we ever lost, that was just and reasonable, by acting with promptitude and vigour? The records again assure us that such measures have been attended with complete success. Two centuries have elapsed this very year, I think, since the bold Captain Waddell came from London with three or four merchant ships to propose a trade. The Mandarins at first deceived him; but on a better understanding of his case, he demanded an audience of the Viceroy. This was refused; and the batteries opened upon his ships. In this predicament the gallant Waddell hauled as near the enemy as he could, beat down the walls about their ears, landed and took the forts, embarked the guns, took their Admiral a prisoner, sailed up to Canton, renewed his application, and had an audience of the Viceroy immediately."

It was in this spirit that Lord Napier wished to proceed, and in suggesting the means by which his recommendation should be given effect to he wrote:—

"A messenger to Calcutta can communicate there with the Governor-General, and proceed to this place [Canton] in one of the clippers, or fast sailing traders, during any season of the monsoon. His arrival there in May will allow abundance of time to prepare a little armament to enter the China Seas with the first of the S.W. monsoon; which, on arriving, should take possession

of the island of Hongkong, in the eastern entrance of the Canton river, which is admirably adapted for every purpose."

Meanwhile the tedious delays and negotiations continued, the Viceroy still refusing to open Lord Napier's letter of announcement, stopping the trade, and finally besetting His Lordship's residence, driving away the native servants, and cutting off all supplies of provisions. Had the Chief Superintendent's instructions allowed him a free hand his mission might have terminated otherwise than it did, but under the circumstances, and having, moreover, been seized with illness, he was induced to withdraw to Macao, for which port he embarked on the 21st September. On the 11th October he died, the fever which terminated his life being brought on—"we quote from the despatch of Mr. Davis announcing the sad event to Lord Palmerston"—"by the heat and confinement of Canton, aggravated, it is to be feared, by the harassing and distressing annoyances which he experienced there from the Chinese, as well as by the unnecessary delay on his passage down to Macao."

On the death of Lord Napier Mr. Davis became Chief Superintendent, in accordance with the terms of the commission, but shortly afterwards left for home, and the appointment was then held for a few months by Sir G. B. Robinson. By a despatch of the 7th June, 1836, the latter was informed that the office of Chief Superintendent was abolished and was instructed to make over the archives of the Commission to Captain Elliot, on whom the duties of Chief Superintendent then devolved, Mr. Johnston, then Third Superintendent, being appointed Deputy Superintendent.

During the next three years the trade was conducted under the old conditions, the Superintendent still being unrecognized by the Chinese authorities. The war clouds were, however, gathering. On the 10th March, 1839, the Imperial Commissioner Liu arrived at Canton, and a few days afterwards demanded the surrender of all the opium, and at the same time required the merchants to sign a bond by which their lives and properties would be placed at the disposal of the Chinese Government. The demand not being complied with, the factories were blockaded and the native servants compelled to leave. The opium was then surrendered to prevent further violence, and Captain Elliot, having declared that he had lost all confidence in the justice and moderation of the Provincial Government, required all British subjects to leave Canton, at the same time applying to the Governor-General of India for as many armed vessels, to protect British life and property, as could be spared from the India

station. He had already required that "all ships of Her Majesty's subjects at the outer anchorages should proceed forthwith to Hongkong, and, hoisting their national colours, be prepared to resist every act of aggression on the part of the Chinese Government." After the surrender of the opium the blockade of the factories was raised and the foreigners were allowed to leave. By the end of the month the whole community, with the exception of a few Americans, had withdrawn to Macao. The Portuguese settlement, however, was also threatened, and in a despatch dated the 6th May, 1839, Captain Elliot wrote:—

"This may not be an inconvenient occasion to press upon your Lordship's attention the strong necessity of concluding some immediate arrangement with His Most Faithful Majesty, either for the cession of the Portuguese rights at Macao, or for the effectual defence of the place; and its appropriation to British uses, by means of a subsidiary convention. A garrison of 1,000 good troops, principally artillery, and a few sail of gunboats would place Macao in a situation to cover the whole trade with this part of the empire."

In the same despatch it was represented that while the safety of Macao was an object of secondary moment to the Portuguese Government, to that of Her Majesty it might be said to be of indispensable necessity. Happily, however, destiny had in store for the British nation the possession of a better *point d'appui* for the China trade.

On the 18th July, 1839, Captain Elliot wrote to Lord Palmerston:—"But, my Lord, the difficulties in China are not confined to this matter of opium. The true and far more important question to be solved is whether there shall be honourable and extending trade with this empire; or whether the coasts shall be delivered over to a state of things which will pass rapidly from the worst character of forced trade to plain buccaneering." In considering the origin of the so-called opium war it is important to bear this declaration in mind, and, as will be seen, the first blood drawn was on a point having no connection with opium.

Here we quote from the *Daily Press* of the 26th August, 1837:—

"As Lin did not venture to leave Canton until he could report the resumption of the regular trade, he was anxious by all means, fair or unfair, to secure this end. Matters continued in this state of tension through June and July, 1839. The English merchants and their families stayed at Macao; British shipping lay in the harbour of Hongkong. On the 15th July the mischance occurred which was to prove the ostensible turning point to war: a riot took place on the beach at Hongkong between some English and American seamen and the natives, in which a Chinaman, one Lin Wei-hsi, lost his life.

"Commissioner Lin eagerly seized the occasion as a pretext for attributing the interruption of British intercourse, which was now causing serious disquiet at Court and in the province, to the homicide and not to his own violent measures. He demanded that 'the murderer' should be given up, and that British shipping should enter the Bogue,—the real purpose in hand. As the trial instituted by Captain Elliot failed to bring the charge home, Lin proceeded to invest Macao, and to drive away the servants, and stop the supplies of food of the English residents. Some months previously (in March) Elliot had formally written to the Governor of the city 'to throw himself and all British subjects in China on his protection,' undertaking that the British Government should pay all expenses; he had even ordered by circular British subjects to place themselves under the command of the Governor. But the latter, timid or shortsighted, declared that his very peculiar situation imposed on him the bounden duty of observing a strict neutrality.' (On this later occasion Elliot felt that he ought no longer to compromise the safety of the settlement by remaining, and so on the 24th August he moved with his establishment to Hongkong. Mrs. Elliot had previously embarked for the island with her child, and so perhaps became the first lady resident of Hongkong, certainly the first official lady resident. It was hoped that Lin would be satisfied with the withdrawal of Captain Elliot, but it soon became evident that he intended to expel all Englishmen from Macao. A committee of management for the embarkation of the British residents was appointed, with Mr. Astell as Chairman, and a number of armed vessels and boats got ready. The anxiety of the residents was increased by the news of the savage outrage on the *Black Joke*, a small schooner on her way from Macao to Hongkong, when the crew were with the exception of the steersman murdered and the ear of the one passenger cut off and thrust down his throat. On the 25th August matters came to a crisis. Several thousand Chinese troops had collected at the isthmus, and the Chinamen in Macao were crowding out of the city with their property. Every few hours came a despatch from the Commissioner, each more peremptory than the last, ordering the Portuguese to expel their guests. Three times the Governor, divided by fear and shame, consulted Mr. Astell. The English houses were to be surrounded that night and their inmates murdered, but he, the Governor, had replied that every European in the place would die first. Mr. Astell answered that all British subjects should depart the following morning, and left the Governor walking uneasily up and down the quay, followed by the citizens under arms. That night no one slept; the next morning (the 25th) the exodus began. Marshalled by Mr. Astell and Mr. James Matheson, and guarded to

the shore by all the Portuguese garrison, the Governor himself assisting, the whole of the British community, women and children as well (a few sick they were forced to leave behind in hospital) embarked, and under the convoy of H.M.S. *Volage* arrived safely at Hongkong.

"Here they mustered some 50 ships ill furnished for defence, but determined to resist any attack made on them. Captain Elliot made one more attempt to secure the residence of his countrymen at Macao. He wrote again to the Governor on the 1st September offering to throw troops into the city and hold it against the Chinese, but the Governor, declaring that he must persevere continue neutral, let slip this last opportunity of ensuring the prosperity of the settlement. From that time till this Hongkong has remained the chief seat of British trade with China, growing in wealth and importance as Macao dwindled into decay and poverty."

The next measure of the Chinese Authorities was to stop supplies of food at Hongkong, and the water was also reported to be poisoned, a placard being put up on shore warning Chinese against drinking it. This led to a miniature naval battle in Kowloon Bay, of which the following account was given by Captain Elliot in a despatch dated "Ship *Fort William*, Hongkong, 5th September, 1839":—

"I yesterday proceeded to Kow Lone, in the cutter *Louisa*, distant about four miles from this anchorage, where there were three large men-of-war junks, whose presence, I collected from the natives about us, prevented the regular supplies of food. I was accompanied by the *Pearl*, a small armed vessel, and Captain Smith of the *Volage* was so good as to lend me the pinnace of his ship, and to go with me himself. But I can assure your Lordship, that though I am responsible for causing the first shot to be fired, I did not anticipate any conflict when we left, and went accompanied solely for purposes of sufficient defence against insult or attack.

"The violent and vexatious measures heaped upon Her Majesty's officer and subjects will, I trust, serve to excuse those feelings of irritation which have betrayed me into a measure that I am sensible, under less trying circumstances, would be difficult indeed of vindication. But I proceed to state the circumstances as they took place, leaving their most favourable construction to your Lordship's unvarying kindness, and to that consideration for my harassing situation which I am sure will be extended to me by Her Majesty's Government.

"Upon our arrival at the station of the junks, which I found anchored in a line ahead and close order, under rather a formidable and well-manned battery, I brought up abreast of them at about pistol-shot distance, and despatched Mr. Gutzlaff in a small boat with two men (perfectly unarmed) to the centre junk, taking her

from her size and superior equipment to be the vessel of the commanding mandarin.

"After five or six hours of delay and irritating evasion, I sent a boat on shore to a distant part of the bay with money to purchase supplies, which the people succeeded in doing, and were on the point of bringing away, when some mandarin runners approached, and obliged the natives to take back their provisions.

"They returned to me with this intelligence, and greatly provoked, I opened fire from the pinnace, the cutter, and the other vessel, upon the three junks. It was answered both from them and the battery, with a spirit not at all unexpected by me, for I have already had experience that the Chinese are much under-rated in that respect. After a fire of almost half-an-hour against this vastly superior force, we hauled off from the failure of our ammunition; for I have already said, anicipating no serious results, we had not come in prepared for them. It was evident, however, that the junks had suffered considerably, and after a delay of about three-quarters of an hour, they weighed and made sail from under the protection of the battery, with the obvious purpose of making their escape through an adjacent outlet. By this time we had made cartridges, and were in a state to renew the action, and, as Captain Smith had proceeded out to bring in Her Majesty's ship, and wished the vessels to be prevented from escaping, I bore up and engaged them again, and succeeded in beating them back to their former position. In this affair, as in the preceding, I was very gallantly supported by Mr. Reddie, the commander of the *Pearl*; but the superior sailing of the cutter cast the task of sending back these three vessels upon that vessel; and I can have no doubt that the impression, that such a force was more than enough to cope with three of their war-junks, will indispose the Commissioner to revert to his menaced measures of attack against this fleet. By this time the evening was closing in, and we returned to join the *Volage* and the boats from the fleet, then entering the bay for our support. During the night I conferred with Captain Smith, and he acceded to my recommendation, not to proceed in the morning and destroy the three junks; and above all, not to land men for the purpose of attack upon the battery, a measure that would probably lead to the destruction of the neighbouring village, and great injury and irritation of the inhabitants. If her services had been required for our support against a state of actual attack, such considerations could not have prevailed; but it did not appear to me to be judicious, or, indeed, becoming, to recommend the employment of Her Majesty's ship in the destruction of three junks, already most effectually checked by my own small vessel, with the assistance of another scarcely larger. There had been no act of aggression against Her Majesty's ship, and her active in-

interference was unnecessary for the support of the honour of the flag."

Shortly afterwards an adjustment, "temporary but honourable," was arrived at, and on the 21st October, 1839, Captain Elliot reported that the British community was returning to Macao. The arrangement proved very temporary indeed, and on the 26th another notice was put forth in which the Superintendent required all commanders of British ships "to prepare for sea and proceed to Tong-Koo Bay, the anchorage of Hongkong being liable to surprise by fire ships and war boats." The *Volage* and *Hyacinth* had arrived on the 30th August to reinforce the *Lerne* on the station, and on the 3rd November a Chinese fleet of twenty-nine war junks, which had assumed a threatening attitude on the occasion of Captain Elliot's going to Chuenpee to take part in a conference, was disabled, three of the craft being sunk, one blown up, and the rest drifting ashore or retiring in distress. The engagement lasted only three quarters of an hour. On the evening of the same day Her Majesty's ships arrived at Macao, and arrangements were immediately made for the embarkation of those of Her Majesty's subjects who thought it safest to retire. On the morning of the 4th November Captain Elliot returned to Hongkong with the *Volage*, the *Hyacinth* being left at Macao to watch events in that quarter.

Correspondence had already passed between Captain Elliot and the merchants with respect to the suitability of Hongkong as an anchorage under the circumstances then existing. Captain Elliot holding it dangerous, while its convenience and what Captain Elliot termed the "ill-founded confidence in their own strength or skill to resist sudden attack upon the part of a great many of the masters of the merchant shipping" induced a different opinion on the other side. The following documents on this subject are interesting:—

CAPTAIN MORGAN AND OTHERS, COMMANDERS OF BRITISH VESSELS, TO CAPTAIN ELLIOT.

"Hongkong, 26th October, 1839.

"Sir,—With reference to your public notice, dated 26th of October, requiring all British ships to proceed to Tongkoo Bay, the anchorage at Hongkong being liable to surprise by fire-ships and war junks, we the undersigned, commanders of British ships at Hongkong, beg that you will take into consideration the very great advantages that the present anchorage of the shipping has over that of Tongkoo Bay. The tides at Tongkoo being much stronger and more regular than here, would afford greater facilities for sending fire-rafts down, than at this place, where, if the shipping are moored on the North side of the bay, it would be almost impossible to annoy them with fire-rafts; and as most of the cargoes will most probably have to be transhipped to other ships, this bay is

more advantageous than Tongkoo Bay for that purpose. Supplies of water and provisions are at present easily procurable at this place, and it is doubtful whether they would be at Tongkoo.

"We therefore request that the ships may remain here (of course under the protection of the men-of-war) unless there are other and more urgent reasons for the removal of the shipping, of which we are ignorant. We trust we shall not be considered presuming too far, if we request that before a fleet of ships, such as are now here, are to be removed from one anchorage to another, that some explanation should be afforded, and the opinions of some of the more experienced amongst us be taken on a subject of such great importance to the ships and cargoes under our charge.—We have, &c."

Signed by the commanders of thirty-six ships

CAPTAIN ELLIOT TO CAPTAIN W. MORGAN, AND OTHERS.

"Her Majesty's ship *Volage*.

"Hongkong, November 10th, 1839.

"Gentlemen.—I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 26th ult. I find, upon enquiry, that the original must be lying at Macao.

"Public considerations, which appeared to me to be of sufficient force, led me some time since to recommend a removal to the anchorage at Tongkoo; and events of subsequent occurrence carried me to the conclusion that it was incumbent on me to require that step, in still more urgent terms. Convenience of commerce is a consideration which must always have its due weight, but situated as we are, others of primary importance present themselves, to which that one must be postponed.

"I am well acquainted with the anchorage at Tongkoo, and find myself equal to form a sound opinion upon its suitability, in all the respects of safety, convenience for the supplies, and neighbourhood to other points requiring attention; and needing no information, I have not felt it necessary to seek advice upon a subject which it forms part of my duty to dispose of upon my own responsibility, and according to the best of my own judgment.—I have, &c."

(Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT,

"Chief Superintendent.

THE AGENTS FOR LLOYDS, AND OTHERS TO CAPTAIN ELLIOT.

"Hongkong, November 9th, 1839.

"Sir,—A letter having been addressed to you on the 26th ult., by thirty-five commanders of British ships, setting forth the superior advantages of this anchorage, and the risks and inconveniences attendant on the contemplated removal to Tongkoo of the British shipping now here, we beg leave, in behalf of the extensive interests collectively represented by us as merchants, agents, and underwriters, to express our entire concurrence in the sentiments of that letter; and our hope that they may also be approved of by you.

"We would further remark, that while the removal of the shipping from this anchorage would be viewed by the Chinese as a retreat from their force, and as an encouragement to further acts of aggression, it cannot be doubted that they will bring an equal force to act against us, at whatever other anchorage may be resorted to outside the Bogue. It is likewise to be apprehended, that were the British shipping to quit this anchorage, it would immediately be so occupied and fortified by the Chinese, as to preclude our return to it in the south-west monsoon, when no other, affording equal shelter, and suitable for purposes of business, at that boisterous season of the year, is within our reach.

"We therefore hope it will suit you, and the commanders of Her Majesty's ships to afford the same protection as heretofore to the British shipping, without the necessity of their removing from an anchorage so universally preferred as that now occupied—We have, &c."

(Signed by twenty Firms, the Agents for Lloyds, and for eleven Insurance Offices.)

CAPTAIN ELLIOT TO MESSRS. ROXTON,
MACLEAN & CO. AND OTHERS.

"Her Majesty's ship *Volage*,"

"Hongkong, 11th November, 1839.

"Gentlemen,—The grounds upon which I first recommended, and then required the removal of the British shipping to Tongkoo Bay have been maturely considered, and, in the present situation of circumstances, I perceive still stronger reasons for that step without delay.

"Adverting to your impression, which the removal of the shipping may make upon the Chinese, I will only remark, that whilst it is to be regretted that any room should have been left for misconception of this description, still I do not feel warranted in sanctioning the continuance of the shipping at what I hold to be an unsuitable station, by reason of the possibility that the Chinese should ascribe their departure to wrong motives. The measure recommends itself to me, because I think it right and highly convenient for the general public interests confided to me.

"A proper situation for the shipping in the south-west monsoon will not be difficult of selection (be it here or elsewhere) when the period for meeting that exigency arrives.

"It is always my disposition, gentlemen, to fulfil the wishes of the merchants; but I cannot abandon my strong public opinion and impulses to my personal inclinations. I hope to be excused for once more recommending and requiring the immediate removal of the British merchant shipping to Tongkoo Bay.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) "CHARLES ELLIOT,
"Chief Superintendent."

The sequel is thus recorded by the *Canton Register* :—

"In corroboration of the remark of the mer-

chants, that—'removal of the shipping from this anchorage would be viewed by the Chinese as a retreat from their force, and an encouragement to further acts of aggression'—we quote the following facts. The Chinese, on the night of the 11th inst., commenced a cannonade at Hongkong, at the Kowloon end, about midnight, and continued it until nearly daylight, with scarcely any intermission. Those vessels which had been lying inshore having, with exception of one, moved further out, no damage was done; some shots, however, passed between the masts of the inshore loiterer.

"There was no further attempt made to annoy the ships during Tuesday and Tuesday night but on Wednesday morning the *Charles Forbes* and a few other vessels left for Tongkoo, as also did H. M. S. *Hyacinth*.

"The departure of H.M.'s ship *Hyacinth* seemed to cause some alarm amongst the merchant vessels, as they followed by dozens, through the different passages, and at 4 p.m. on Wednesday only nine ships were left in Hongkong bay.

"The remark of the merchants was now supported by the hostile proceedings of the Chinese, who immediately began to erect batteries when the ships began to leave, for the first time appearing at their work in absolute silence. About 5 p.m. on the 13th they opened their fire from four batteries, which they continued with much regularity from one end to the other of each battery; some of the guns were of large calibre, and were fired once in intervals of about three minutes, which demonstrates that the Chinese are not active in loading; the report of these guns filled the resounding bay of Hongkong with their echoes; some shots passed over the ships, and the *General Wood* was obliged to shift her berth.—The whole fleet were safely anchored in Tongkoo bay on the 14th inst.

"Previously to the ships leaving Hongkong, some officers had gone on shore and were attacked by the Chinese military, and forced to flight. One was wounded. On reaching their ships one of the captains opened fire upon the shore, but was ordered to desist by Captain Warren, of H.M.'s ship *Hyacinth*.

"The guns that had been mounted on the breastwork were carried away in the forenoon; it would have been an easy matter to have captured them, had it been thought worth while.

"This is the third or fourth 'fitting' of the English."

How trade had fared during this disturbed period is thus recorded in a despatch of Captain Elliot, dated Tongkoo, 28th November, 1839 :—

"It is a most remarkable circumstance that throughout the whole course of persecution which has marked the Commissioner's career, he has never ventured upon the expedient for coercing Her Majesty's subjects, which finds so prominent a place in all Chinese State Papers respecting foreign management,—that is, by an effectual

stoppage of the trade. For the last six months, and up to this day, the British trade has constantly proceeded; not indeed directly, but in American and other foreign bottoms: and it is a striking and gratifying fact that up to this time the lawful import trade of the current year, as well in the Indian staple of cotton as in every description of British goods, has been done more advantageously than any of a like period since the close of the Company's Charter in 1834."

At Christmas a rhymester dated a card from Tongkoo, of which the opening verse ran as under:—

Merry Christmas, ancient Christmas.
Welcome, welcome back once more.
Though, in truth, old boy, thou find'st us
On a crabbed, churlish shore.
This hath been a year of buffets,
Dangers, troubles clogged its way,
But our hearts are still unconquered.
Welcome Christmas, let's be gay.

In June, 1840, the expedition arrived, a blockade of the anton river was declared, (human was taken, the ships returned south and silenced the Bogue forts, and on the 20th January, 1841, Captain Elliot issued the following memorable note:—

"To Her Britannic Majesty's subjects.

"Macao, 20th January, 1841.

"Her Majesty's plenipotentiary has now to announce the conclusion of preliminary arrangements between the Imperial Commissioner and himself involving the following conditions:—

"1.—The cession of the island and harbour of Hongkong to the British Crown. All just charges and duties to the empire upon the commerce carried on there to be paid as if the trade were conducted at Whampoa.

"2.—An indemnity to the British Government of six millions of dollars; one million payable at once, and the remainder in equal annual instalments, ending in 1846.

"3.—Direct official intercourse between the countries upon equal footing.

"4.—The trade of the port of Canton to be opened within ten days after the Chinese New Year, and to be carried on at Whampoa till further arrangements are practicable at the new settlement.

"Details remain matter of negotiation. The plenipotentiary seizes the earliest occasion to declare that Her Majesty's Government has sought for no privilege in China exclusively for the advantage of British ships and merchants, and he is only performing his duty in offering the protection of the British flag to the subjects, citizens, and ships of foreign Powers that may resort to Her Majesty's possession. Pending Her Majesty's further pleasure, there will be no port or other charges to the British Government.

"The plenipotentiary now permits himself to make a few general observations. The oblivion

of past and redressed injuries will follow naturally from the right feeling of the Queen's subjects. Indeed, it should be remembered that no extent of modification resulting only from political intervention can be efficacious in the steady improvement of our condition, unless it be systematically seconded by conciliatory treatment of the people and becoming deference for the country upon the threshold of which we are about to be established. The plenipotentiary can only presume to advert very briefly to the zeal and wisdom of the commander of the expedition to China, and to that rare union of ardour, patience, and forbearance which has distinguished the officers and forces of our arms at all points of occupation and operation. He is well assured the British community will sympathize cordially with him in their sentiments of lasting respect for His Excellency and the whole force, which he is ashamed to express in such inadequate language.

"He cannot conclude without declaring that next to these causes the peaceful adjustment of difficulties must be ascribed to the scrupulous good faith of the very eminent person with whom negotiations are still pending.

(Signed) "CHARLES ELLIOT,

"H. M. Plenipotentiary in China."

It will be observed that according to this Captain Elliot contemplated that Customs dues on the trade of Hongkong were to be paid to the Emperor of China, as was at that time the case at Macao, but nothing of the kind was ever done.

The taking possession of the island is thus described by Commander Belcher, of H.M.S. *Sulphur*:—

"We landed on the 25th January, 1841, at fifteen minutes past 8 a.m., and being the first *bona fide* possessors Her Majesty's health was drunk on Possession Mount. The next day, 26th, the squadron arrived, the marines were landed, the Union Jack hoisted on the post we had stuck up the day before, and formal possession of the island taken by Commodore Sir J. Gordon Bremer, accompanied by the officers of the squadron, under a *feu-d'artifice* from the marines and a Royal salute from the ships of war."

The hoisting of the flag was followed three days later by the issue of the following proclamation:—

"By Charles Elliot, Esq., a captain in the Royal Navy, Chief Superintendent of the trade of British subjects in China, and holding full powers under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland to execute the office of Her Majesty's Commissioner, Procurator, and Plenipotentiary in China.

"The island of Hongkong having been ceded to the British Crown under the seal of the Imperial minister and high commissioner Keshen, it has become necessary to provide for the government thereof, pending Her Majesty's further pleasure.

"By virtue of the authority, therefore, in me vested, all Her Majesty's Rights, Royalties, Privileges of all kinds whatever, in and over the said island of Hongkong, whether to, or over lands, harbours, property, or personal service, are hereby declared, proclaimed, and to Her Majesty fully reserved.

"And I do hereby declare and proclaim, that pending Her Majesty's further pleasure, the government of the said island shall devolve upon and be exercised by the person filling the office of Chief Superintendent of the trade of British subjects in China for the time being.

"And I do hereby declare and proclaim, that, pending Her Majesty's further pleasure, the natives of the island of Hongkong, and all natives of China thereto resorting, shall be governed according to the laws and customs of China, every description of torture excepted.

"And I do further declare and proclaim, that, pending Her Majesty's further pleasure, all offences committed in Hongkong by Her Majesty's subjects, or other persons than natives of the island or of China thereto resorting, shall fall under the cognizance of the Criminal and Admiralty jurisdiction presently existing in China.

"And I do further declare and proclaim, that pending H M's further pleasure such rules and regulations as may be necessary from time to time for the government of Hongkong, shall be issued under the hand and seal of the person filling the office of Chief Superintendent of the trade of British subjects in China for the time being.

"And I do further declare and proclaim, that, pending Her Majesty's further pleasure, all British subjects and foreigners residing in, or resorting to the island of Hongkong, shall enjoy full security and protection, according to the principles and practice of British law, so long as they shall continue to conform to the authority of Her Majesty's government in and over the island of Hongkong, hereby duly constituted and proclaimed.

"Given under my hand and seal of office on board of Her Majesty's ship *Wellesley*, at anchor in Hongkong Bay, this twenty-ninth day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-one.

(Signed) "CHARLES ELLIOT.
"God save the Queen."

The following proclamation was also addressed to the inhabitants:—

"Bremer, Commander-in-chief, and Elliot, Plenipotentiary, &c., &c., by this proclamation make known to the inhabitants of the island of Hongkong, that that island has now become part of the dominions of the Queen of England by clear public agreement between the high officers of the Celestial and British Courts; and all native persons residing therein must understand that they are now subjects of the Queen of England, to whom and to whose officers they must pay duty and obedience.

"The inhabitants are hereby promised protection, in Her Majesty's gracious name, against all enemies whatever; and they are further secured in the free exercise of their religious rites, ceremonies, and social customs; and in the enjoyment of their lawful private property and interests. They will be governed, pending Her Majesty's further pleasure, according to the laws, customs, and usages of the Chinese 'every description of torture excepted', by the elders of villages, subject to the control of a British magistrate; and any person having complaint to prefer of ill-usage or injustice against any Englishman or foreigner will quietly make report to the nearest officer, to the end that full justice may be done.

"Chinese ships and merchants resorting to the port of Hongkong for purposes of trade are hereby exempted, in the name of the Queen of England, from charge or duty of any kind to the British Government. The pleasure of the Government will be declared from time to time by further proclamation: And all heads of villages are held responsible that these commands are duly respected and observed.

"Given under Seal of Office, the 1st day of February, 1841."

When news of the cession reached Peking the Emperor immediately issued an edict ordering Keshen to be disgraced from office and put in irons, to be escorted under arrest to the capital, and his property to be seized and confiscated. The edict is dated 11th February, and opens as follows:—

"To-day it appears by a speedy dispatch from Eleang, the lieutenant-governor, that these English rebels had sent in a rebellious document, stating that they were all remaining at Hongkong, and that they had issued a false proclamation to the people. Now, Hongkong is a place of very great importance, and Keshen has on a former occasion memorialized in relation to it (that it be ceded to the English), but should we be willing to give it to them, most certainly would they have bodies of troops stationary there, would collect together quantities of provisions, erect forts and plant their great guns upon them, and after a while they would become inordinate in their desires for Kwangtung province; and of the disastrous consequences which would ensue, we cannot find word to express."

The Board appointed to try Keshen, in their report, published in the *Peking Gazette*, say:—

"After his arrival at Canton he first proceeded upon the principle of reason to deliver his lucid commands, after which the said barbarians demanded that a port for trade should be given them, but ere the negotiations were completed, they forthwith attacked the fort of Tuckuk and also surrounded that of Sha-kok. In consequence of this Keshen attempted to rescue (the forts) from the dangerous position, but was destitute

of plans and became willing in behalf of the English to memorialise the Emperor to give them the region of Hongkong as a place upon which to dwell. The said barbarians, intently scheming to have the rule of the place, immediately issued their false proclamations there, and spread out their tents." Reference is then made to the interviews at Bocca Tigris, when "he (Elliot) earnestly besought that the whole of Hongkong should be given to him, and also at the same time brought forward several points touching residence and trade, to all of which he requested Keshen to affix his seals. But Keshen withheld assent.

"On the twenty eighth the said barbarians, hearing of the coming of the grand army and supposing that so great a force must certainly be designed for attacking and exterminating them, were about commencing the attack themselves, and Keshen being anxious for the safety of the Pogue sent Paou chung to present a document in which it was stated to them that they could proceed to Hongkong to remain there for the time being, and ordering them to keep quiet, as the negotiations would be determined after an answer had arrived in reply to the clear memorial which had been made to the Court. Paou-chung was also ordered that if the barbarian did not manifest obedient tempers, then to take the document and bring it back. Paou-chung having seen the barbarians and finding their designs to be murderous and wicked, withheld the document.

"On the first day of the second moon the barbarians attacked the fort of Sha-kok, and Keshen called troops to rescue it but could not.

"We, the Ministers, have carefully examined Keshen on the whole of the foregoing positions, and at the close of the third examination Keshen could only tremble with fear and acknowledge his own unpardonable crimes.

"At the time he and the barbarian Eye held their negotiation, he without delay fully delivered Hongkong over to the English for the time, not daring to deceive them nor persevering to receive the things they had to offer, but his entire policy was decidedly bad, and he now requests that we, the Ministers, would on his account memorialise and implore that the Celestial favour might be manifested in inflicting upon him the heaviest punishment."

Keshen was remanded to the Council to determine the sentence. The Council in their further report say:—"When the barbarian English became refractory towards his (Keshen's) clear commands for arrangement, and manifested their wolfish dispositions, he ought straightway to have memorialised the Court requesting troops to be prepared in order that at an early day they might be exterminated. But he incoherently presented them a place to dwell at, and for the time being gave Hongkong to them, which is the excuse they (the English) give for taking possession of

it." His other delinquencies are then set out, and the sentence is announced as follows:—"The law decrees imprisonment and decapitation, and we hereby sentence him to be beheaded, but to be imprisoned until after the autumn and then to be executed."

The death sentence was, however, not carried out, and in 1843 we find Keshen reinstated in many of his honours and titles and sent on Government employ to Yarkand.

On the 19th February, 1841. H.M.S. *Nemesis* returned from the Bogue without the expected ratification of the treaty, the Emperor's disapproval having by that time become known, and on the 24th hostilities recommenced, Hongkong being then held by force of arms.

On the 7th May the first number of the *Hongkong Gazette*, dated 1st March, was published, the objects of which were explained as follows:—"A gazette will be published under the authority of the Government of this Island at half monthly periods from this date, with a view to afford greater publicity to the general orders that may from time to time be issued by the officers of the British Government. The sheet will be filled up, when it is found necessary, by the insertion of such statistical returns and other documents as shall be deemed valuable or interesting." The paper was printed at the American Mission Press, Macao.

On the 30th April Captain William Caine, of Her Majesty's 26th (or Cameronian) Regiment of Infantry was appointed Chief Magistrate of the Island of Hongkong, his warrant being under the hand of "Charles Elliot, Esquire, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, etc., etc., charged with the Government of the island of Hongkong." The Chief Magistrate was authorised and required "to exercise authority, according to the laws, customs, and usages of China, as near as may be (every description of torture excepted), for the peace and the protection of life and property, over all the native inhabitants in the said island and the harbours thereof;" also "to exercise magisterial and police authority over all persons whatever (other than natives of the island, or persons subject to the Mutiny Act or to the general law for the government of the fleet) who shall be found committing breaches of the peace on shore or in the harbours of this island, or breaches of any regulation to be issued from time to time by this Government, according to the customs and usages of British police law."

On the 7th June the following proclamation was issued by Captain Elliot:—

"It is hereby declared to the merchants and traders of Canton and all parts of the Empire, that they and their ships have free permission to resort to trade at the port of Hongkong,

where they will receive full protection from the high officers of the British nation; and Hongkong being of the Chinese empire, neither will there be any charges on imports and exports payable to the British Government.

"And it is further clearly declared that there will be an immediate embargo upon the port of Canton and all the large ports of the Empire if there be the least obstruction to the freedom of Hongkong.

"Persons bringing information to the British officers which shall lead to detection of pirates will be liberally rewarded, and pirates will be taken and delivered over to the officers of the Chinese Government for punishment.

"At Macao, the 7th day of June, 1841."

The sale of the quit rent of 100 allotments of ground having water frontage and 100 town or suburban lots was to have taken place on the 12th Jun., 1841, and a number of merchants left Macao to attend, but on their arrival it was found that through some misunderstanding no preparations for the sale had been made; but after the arrival of the Deputy Superintendent thirty-two lots were surveyed and parcelled out, and their sale took place on the following Monday, netting what the *Canton Press* calls the enormous amount of £3,116 annual quit rent. There was great competition among the bidders, the first lot went at £20 and some fetched as high as £230. The eager competition is explained by the *Press* as being due to the small number of lots offered.

Prior to this date, storage of British goods having been disallowed at Macao, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. had built brick godowns at Hongkong, and at the sale they bought the ground on which the buildings stood at the average of the sale, namely £333 per acre quit rent. Leases, however, were never given, the Government at a later day taking over the godowns at a valuation for use as commissariat stores. These were the first brick buildings in the colony, the second being the lock-up, which formed the nucleus of the present gaol.

On the 22nd June, 1841, it was notified that Alexander Robert Johnston, Esq., Deputy Superintendent of the trade of British subjects in China, had that day assumed charge of the Government of the island of Hongkong on behalf of the Chief Superintendent.

The *Canton Press* of the 3rd July, 1841, in speaking of the intention of the purchasers of allotments of land to begin building on them without loss of time, says:—"But the works cannot proceed for the want of workmen, the Chinese authorities having issued a rigorous prohibition to all mechanics to go to Hongkong, and erect buildings there for the English police runners have within the last few days been to all the master carpenters and master builders and bricklayers here ordering them, on

pain of death, not to go to Hongkong. They are likewise instructed to keep a strict look out that none of their workmen go there; should notwithstanding, the order of the authorities be disregarded, the families of the offenders are threatened with death. The strictest orders are likewise given that no building materials shall be conveyed to the British settlements and no merchandise of any description whatsoever."

The prohibition, however, does not seem to have been very effective, for in the *Press* of the 17th July it is stated that some private building had been commenced, "and it will be seen from our advertising columns that many good things can be had at No. 46, Victoria Avenue," where presumably a store had been established. The matchsheds had become sufficiently numerous by that time to be ranged in streets and avenues, but on the 21st July most of them were blown down by a typhoon.

During the first year of the occupation the troops quartered on the island were decimated by sickness. The state of affairs is thus described by a writer in the *Chinese Repository*:—

"Though inhaling the poisonous miasma during the seven days' sojourn on the heights above the city of Canton, still the men continued free from the disease. Excitement and hard work seemed to steel them against it. On the passage down the river they first began to suffer. Our gallant and respected commodore Sir H. Le Fleming Senhouse was the first to sicken under the disease. He carried with him to the grave the regrets of all. He was buried at Macao and a monument was erected over his remains by a general subscription from the army and navy. The health of the troops on board ship soon began to improve. Those on shore, however, continued to suffer much. They consisted of the 37th Madras Native Infantry, Sappers and Miners, recruits of the 18th Royal Irish, and a detachment of the Bengal Volunteers.

"On the increase of sickness 100 men of the 37th Regiment and the whole of the other troops on shore were re-embarked. In them a rapid and decided improvement speedily took place. The headquarters of the 37th Regiment, about 500 strong, were left on shore, and unfortunately housed in barracks very ill-adapted for this changeable climate. Disease in them rapidly increased to an alarming extent. Hospital gangrene made its appearance, and the slightest abraded surface degenerated into a foul and malignant ulcer. Sores which had been cicatrised for days and days again broke out. Men who had been wounded at Huenpee and elsewhere and who, poor fellows, proud of their wounds and rendered by them disqualified for further active service, looked forward with pleasure and anxiety to the period of return to their homes in India, where they would be enabled to spend the rest of their days in ease and comfort with their families on the bountiful pension of their honour.

able masters, were now cut off. Out of 600 men barely 100 were fit for duty. Two of the officers of the regiment had died, and of the remaining 16 only one was off the sick list.

"The corps was exactly in this state when the typhoon of the 21st July came on. It was during the surgeon's visit on the morning of that day that the hospital came down, crushing under its ruins the miserable bed-ridden patients. Though many sustained injuries from which they never recovered, still, surprising to say, only one man was killed, a poor, helpless maniac. By dint of great exertions on the part of the officers and men (for no other assistance could be procured) the sick were extricated from the wreck of the hospital and placed in one of the other barracks; alas! simply to have the same scene enacted over again. Barrack after barrack was levelled with the ground. The officers' houses followed. The force of the wind tore the very flooring from the sleepers. It was now *surve qui peut*. There was danger in remaining in the vicinity of the lines. The wind and drenching rain continued unabated, and torrents in the form of cascades poured down the hills, sweeping everything before them.

"The sea, at all other times so still and smooth here in the harbour, was now furiously agitated. It had encroached on the land far beyond its natural bounds. Ships drifting from their anchorages were seen rapidly nearing the shore while their crews were labouring hard to cut away the masts, their only chance of preservation. Occasionally, as the atmosphere cleared across the bay, several ships could be seen giving each other a friendly embrace. Ships of seven and eight hundred tons were on shore in water which on all ordinary occasions is barely knee deep. Innumerable boats were scattered in fragments on the beach, while underneath and around them were many mangled and lacerated corpses of Chinese.

"At 3 p.m. the typhoon was at its height, the houses were all unroofed, and no covering remained to protect from the raging elements. The natives were running about wildly in all directions, vainly beseeching succour from their gods. The last days of Hongkong seemed to be approaching. It was a grand but awful sight. It will be easier to conceive than to describe the helpless and wretched condition in which the inhabitants of this newly colonised island spent this night. The following day temporary buildings were thrown up for the protection of the men, and a second ship was now procured for 250 of the sick. But deaths still daily occurred amongst them.

"On the night of the 25th and the greater part of the 26th July the island was again visited by a typhoon, which though not so violent as that already described swept away everything that escaped the gale of the 21st. It destroyed the temporary buildings and exposed the wretched inmates a second time to the fury of a tempest

of wind and rain, and the consequences were most disastrous. Meantime the crews of the men-of-war and also the troops on board ship were rapidly convalescing, and on the 21st August, the day on which the fleet got under weigh for Amoy, but few sick remained."

In the first typhoon above described four vessels were dismasted, three driven ashore and wrecked, and thirteen others sustained minor damage. The *James Laing*, parting from her anchors, drifted right down to Cow-e-chow, where she stranded and broke up, the captain's wife being drowned in attempting to land.

On the 10th August, 1841, Sir Henry Pottinger arrived at Macao, and his appointment as Minister Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of Trade appeared in the *Gazette* of the 12th, Captain Elliot leaving for England on the 24th of the same month. On the 21st September Sir Henry left for the North, and remained with the fleet for the remainder of the year.

The progress made by Hongkong in the first year of its existence as a British possession is described in the following review published in the *Gazette* :—

"Hongkong, 1st January, 1842.

"In January, 1841, Hongkong was ceded to the British Crown, and the island was taken possession of on the 26th; but nothing was done for its improvement until May, when a Chief Magistrate was first appointed, and shortly afterwards a road was commenced under the Superintendence of the Corps of Engineers belonging to the Chinese expedition. From May to August the population increased most rapidly, and an extensive bazaar shortly followed this congregating of people, though it received several checks from typhoons and fires. After the departure of the Chinese expedition to Amoy and Chusan in August permanent public buildings were commenced on the side of the island facing the present anchorage, which is called by the natives 'Kwun-tai-foo'.

"Commencing from the westernmost part of the present settlement there are at this date, independent of the temporary barracks which afford quarters for the Bengal Volunteers, one of a permanent nature for about 60 men, nearly completed, a stone storehouse of considerable dimensions ready for use, and another smaller one in a state of forwardness. A road runs from these buildings to the Bazaar, a distance of about one mile and a half, on the side of which some private buildings have been commenced, while in and about the bazaar itself some twenty permanent shops are in different states of completion.

"From this latter point to the residence of Mr. Gillespie, a distance of about two miles, is the present scene of greatest activity; and on both sides of the road permanent buildings of

some importance, both as to size and number, have been and are in progress of construction; while a little higher up Magistracy Hill we see three or four permanent houses already finished and inhabited, overlooked by the Magistracy and Prison itself; and on about the same elevation, but more to the east, on Government Hill, a public office to serve as a temporary residence for the head of the Government is just finished, having a guard-house at no great distance from it, where at present are quartered an officer and more than sixty men of the 55th Foot. Near to this is the residence of the land officer and a small public building used as a post office. Pursuing the road to the east, one arrives at Cantonment Hill, on which a barrack is nearly finished for the Madras Native Infantry, with a powder magazine a little way behind it. At the foot of this hill a small battery is about to be commenced.

"Arrived at Mr. Gillespie's the road crosses a granite bridge and ascends rather suddenly through a gap cut through a hill, from which one commands a view of the whole valley and village of Wong-nei-chung, and the road to Taitam winding up it until lost to sight among the hills in the centre of the island. If instead, however, of pursuing this road, the branch which crosses the valley and goes on east is followed, one at length arrives at the village of Soo-koon-poo, at present a sequestered, well-wooded, and very pretty part of the island. It is from the western end of this village that a point runs out into the sea, where on an European building has already been commenced, and off which lies Kellett's Island, where the Government are constructing a battery. The road to the east terminates at the village of Soo-koon-poo, but about three miles further is the fishing village of Soo-ke-wan, a place with a large migratory population having in its neighbourhood some vast stone quarries. From Soo-ke-wan a native footpath, sufficiently good to ride on, leads to Taitam, which is at present a place of little note, though situated at the head of an extensive and deep bay of that name.

"On the west side of the southernmost point of Taitam Bay there is a little cove called Chek-chu [Stanley,] the resort of large fleets of fishing boats and the site of a considerable town with about 2,000 souls, having a very good bazaar, an extensive ropewalk, and shops well stocked to supply the wants of Chinese seafaring people.

"It is at this place the Government have determined on erecting a barrack for two or three hundred men, and where one capable of holding a hundred is now in an advanced state towards completion. A branch of the Taitam road will lead to this town.

"Tracing one's steps westwards as if continuing round the island one at length comes to Hongkong proper, a small agricultural village situated in a remarkably pretty and the most extensive valley on the island. Shek-pae-wan

[Aberdeen,] often called by the Chinese 'Hong-kong Shek-pae-wan,' would seem to be the seaport of Hongkong proper, and to have once been a more flourishing place than it now is. There is here, on an isolated spot, the largest Chinese temple to be found on any part of the island. The port of Shek-pae-wan, though small, is nearly landlocked; and having both a northern and a south-western entrance it is pretty easy of ingress and egress. An island of about two miles in circumference, called Tap-lee-chew, protects it from south-west to north, and the island of Hong-kong completes the circle. There is abundance of water for a line-of-battle ship, and its only fault is in being too small as an anchorage for many European vessels; yet there may be nearly as much anchoring ground in it as in the Inner Harbour of Macao.

"There is at present a small detachment of the Madras Native Infantry with two officers and one doctor stationed at this place; and the road has been projected and partially finished from Kwan-tai-loo to it across the hills, a distance of three to four miles.

"There are other villages on the island, but as no public works are carrying on, at or near them, at the present date, it has not been thought necessary in this short sketch to make mention of them.

"Various materials have been used in building. At the commencement no one thought of anything better than houses constructed of fan palm leaf, called by the Chinese *kwai*; the next stage was having them boarded and made with doors and windows that could open and shut; then occasionally was found one room of brick and the rest of the house of the aforementioned description. The first who set the example of a stone and brick house was Mr. Matheson; Government soon after commenced the Magistracy and prison; others followed in their train; and now few Europeans think of a palm leaf house, except with certain forebodings of fever and ague. Some wooden houses have been imported from Singapore, and are at present being erected upon a lower story of stone; but for large buildings such as barracks, where space and solidity (should no objection on the score of wholesomeness exist) are the principal considerations, a material made of the common soil or disintegrated rock of the place, sifted and mixed with lime, and then pounded between strong boards into solid walls, seems to be as good as anything else, and costs about half what brick or stone would do. From the great thickness of the walls, also, this material is better adapted for keeping out the heat in summer and the cold in winter; but it must be covered inside and out with a thick coating of plaster. This being well done, and care taken in having the material well mixed and pounded together, there is every reason to expect that a building so constructed will last a very long

time, and indeed attain additional solidity the older it becomes. The ancient houses at Macao as well as the walls of the city are made of this material; and the Chinese may occasionally be seen, when it is required to pull some part of one of them down, cutting out bits of it with wedges and pickaxes, as if it were stone. This material is called *ni cheun* by the Chinese at Hongkong, *taipa* by the Portuguese at Macao, and the manner of making it answers to the description of the *pise* of Europe. Stone is, however, best adapted for building near the sea, and it will be found to cost as little as brick.

"Some wood has been brought from Singapore and Manila, but as it is dearer than Chinese wood now, and requires much more labour to work it, the latter seems to be preferred. Nothing but cheapness would induce one to use the Manila and Singapore wood for other purposes than floorings, as it is excessively heavy; and for roofs the Chinese timber will last as long as the tiles.

"The productions of the island are at present not very numerous. Round most of the villages both on the north and the south side of the island are found very fine mango trees. The lichee, the lungan, the orange and the pear trees seem also to thrive very well, the soil being deep between the rocks, and, according to the opinion of some of the gardeners from the gardens near Canton, of an excellent quality for trees of every sort, some of which have been already planted. There is not much rice cultivation on the island, and what there is, being only on the level parts, is likely soon to be discontinued for the cultivation of vegetables more sought after by Europeans or to be purchased and turned into spots for building upon. Sweet potatoes and a few of the other Chinese vegetables are likewise grown; and doubtless when the agricultural part of the inhabitants begin to find a demand for other than Chinese vegetables others will be produced. Some small additional patches of ground on different parts of the island, previously unproductive, have since its occupation by the English been brought into cultivation. Fish is abundant, and much of it is cured at Chek-chu, as well as at other fishing villages.

"Owing to the roads and paths that have been already cut, parts of the island are now easily got at where formerly it was difficult to go; and the dry coarse grass and fern which abounds in the hills is brought down in large quantities, and with such facilities as to render it cheaper, combined with other circumstances, for Chinese boats to careen at Hongkong, than at any neighbouring places. The grass and fern are used by the Chinese for killing the insects that have eaten into the bottoms of their boats.

"Many little arts are now practised among the working portions of the population which three months ago were not known at Hongkong. Every house that is building of stone gives employment to an itinerant blacksmith, who is

required to point the stonecutter's tools. Mattress makers may also be seen cleaning their cotton with their oddly constructed bow, and hawkers of every description abound, as well as the various sort of fortune tellers, jugglers, quacks, and actors, that are seen in all well-populated Chinese towns.

"Lime-kilns have necessarily increased, and there are many places where the soil is adapted for bricks, so that we may some day see the art of brick making introduced. Tanning is likewise carried on pretty extensively, and the cattle that are consumed by the European classes afford the hides.

"The population has often been estimated at about 15,000 souls, and it is probable this number is by no means an over-estimate. Until the population, however, gets regularly fixed it will not be easy to obtain a census. They are hard-working, industrious, and cheerful, as the Chinese usually are, and they appear to be too much engaged with their own affairs to have time for idleness and graver crimes, which of late have been anything but of frequent occurrence amongst them.

"There are not more than a dozen horses on the island and one carriage, a few small flocks of sheep and some goats. Cattle for the consumption of the Europeans are easily obtained, and some of the cows have been found to afford rather a good supply of rich milk when taken care of and fed with grain.

"Many of the complaints about excessive heat and excessive cold and unhealthiness are being forgotten, except amongst those who have little else to occupy their attention, amidst the general bustle and activity of Hongkong."

Amoy, Chusan, and Ningpo having been taken, Sir Henry Pottinger returned to Hongkong and on the 6th February, 1842, issued the following proclamation:—

"Her Britannic Majesty's Plenipotentiary, Minister Extraordinary, and Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British subjects in China, deems it advisable to notify that pending the receipt of the Queen's Gracious and Royal Pleasure, the harbours of Hongkong and Linghai (Chusan) and their Dependencies shall be considered Free Ports, and that no manner of Customs, Port Duties, or any other charges shall be levied in the said Ports on any ships or vessels of whatever Nation, or sailing under whatever Flag, that may enter those Ports, or on their cargoes."

On the 13th June, 1842, Sir Henry Pottinger again left for the North on the second campaign, and on the 29th August of the same year the Treaty was signed at Nanking Article III. of which is as follows:—

"It being obviously necessary and desirable that British subjects should have some port wherewith they may careen and refit their ships

when required, and keep stores for that purpose. His Majesty the Emperor of China cedes to Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, etc., the Island of Hongkong, to be possessed in perpetuity by Her Britannic Majesty, her heirs and successors, and to be governed by such laws and regulations as Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, etc., shall see fit to direct."

The uncertainty which had hitherto prevailed as to the permanency of the occupation was now removed, and with the full establishment of confidence the progress of the colony was accelerated. It may be noted that the flag was first saluted by a foreign vessel—the French frigate *Erigone*—in April, 1843. The American Commodore, it was stated, had declined to make a similar recognition, but it was held that he was correct in withholding it until the ratifications of the Treaty had been exchanged and officially communicated.

On the 23rd June, 1843, Keying, the Imperial Commissioner, arrived at Hongkong with the ratification of the treaty, and the exchange took place in the Council Chamber about five o'clock on the afternoon of the 26th. Immediately after this ceremony the Royal Charter of the Colony was read and Sir Henry Pottinger took the oaths of office as Governor. These events were notified in the following proclamation:—

"The treaty of peace, ratified under the Sign Manual and Seals of the respective Sovereigns, between Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, &c., &c., and His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China, having been this day formally exchanged, the annexed Royal Charter and Commission, under the Great Seal of State, are hereby proclaimed and published for general information, obedience, and guidance.

"His Excellency Sir Henry Pottinger, Bart., G.C.B. &c. &c., has this day taken the Oaths of Office, and assumed charge of the Government of the Colony of Hongkong and its Dependencies

"In obedience to the Gracious commands of Her Majesty, as intimated in the Royal Charter, the Island and its Dependencies will be designated and known as 'The Colony of Hongkong'; and His Excellency the Governor is further pleased to direct that the present city, on the Northern side of the Island, shall be distinguished by Her Majesty's name, and that all Public Communications, Archives, &c., &c., shall be henceforward dated 'Victoria.'

"God save the Queen.

"HENRY POTTINGER.

"Dated at the Government-House, at Victoria, this 26th day of June, 1843."

The Imperial Commissioner and his suite were sumptuously entertained during their stay in Hongkong, and we find it recorded as one of the incidents of their visit that the first carriage

that passed through the Wanchai Gap was a phaeton containing Sir Henry Pottinger and Keying; 'and no means, we are sure,' the chronicler amusingly adds, 'could have been better adapted to impress on the Tartar magnate the energy and determination of Englishmen to drive through every obstacle than the spectacle of this deep cutting in so comparatively short a period.'

In June, 1843, proclamation was made of an Order in Council providing that the Court of Justice—appointed by Order in Council of the 9th December, 1833, to be held by the Superintendent of Trade—should hereafter be held at Hongkong, and on the 4th March of the following year a Court was held under this Order for the trial of a case of murder and another of manslaughter, the Judges being the Governor (Sir Henry Pottinger) and General D'Aguilar. It being impossible for the Governor to give his attention to civil actions, an Ordinance was passed in March, 1844, authorising him to refer them to arbitration. Later in the same year, however Mr. Hulme arrived to take up the appointment of Chief Justice, and a Supreme Court was then established.

An interesting account of the appearance and condition of Hongkong at this time was given by the Rev. Dr. Legge in a lecture delivered in the City Hall on the 5th November, 1872, from which we extract the following:—

"In the month of May, 1843, I reached Macao, and, a few days after, came over with my family to this place. Our passage was made in a small cutter, chartered for the occasion, and I have not forgotten the sensations of delight with which, when we had passed Green Island, I contemplated the ranges of hills on the north and the south, embosoming between them the tranquil waters of the bay. I seemed to feel that I had found at last the home for which I had left Scotland; and here has been my abode, with intervals occupied by visits to the fatherland, for nearly thirty years.

"The hill-sides now occupied by the graceful terraces of our city then presented a very different appearance. To give you an idea of the place as I first saw it, I had proposed to take a walk with you along the Queen's Road from the west to the east, but I found that that would take too much time. That road was marked out, in many places imperfectly, from Sai-wan on towards Aberdeen, the waters of the bay, from which so much land has since been taken, coming, in the greater part of its course between East and West points, up to it on the north. Hollywood Road, and the streets running down from it to the Queen's Road, were also indicated in a rudimentary fashion. A little beyond the present Sailors' Home were the Naval Stores, and, south of them, all the indentation of the hill where the Reformatory now stands was occupied with tents and huts peopled by the 55th Regiment. From thence eastwards all was blank to the bluff where the

Civil Hospital rises, and on which was a bungalow built by Jamieson, How & Co., and occupied by Mr Edgar, belonging to that firm, and in later years a member of the Legislative Council. On the other side of the road were some godowns of the same firm, washed by the sea. The next European buildings were Gibb, Livingston & Co.'s premises, enclosed within a ring fence, and where partners and employes all managed to reside — with none of the massive godowns which now seem to serve as buttresses to the offices. Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.'s old hong had not been converted into Chinese premises at the date of Dr Legge's lecture. Up and down, and athwart, T'ai-ping-shan, were thread-like paths, with a Chinese house here and there, but the ground was mainly boulder and sandy gravel. Turning to the west, where Wellington Street runs into Queen's Road, you could see a few Chinese houses on either side of the latter, and Jervois Street was in course of formation, the houses on the north side of it having the waters of the bay washing about among them. Eastwards from the same point on to Pottinger Street, Queen's Road was pretty well lined with Chinese houses; the Central Market was formed; and on the other side were some foreign stores, and a tavern or two. Looking up Aberdeen Street, you saw a few indications of building, and a house on the south of Gage Street, forming the head quarters of a Madras Regiment; and looking up Pottinger Street, you could see the Magistracy and Gaol of the day, where the dreaded Major Caine presided, and below them were two or three other buildings. On from Pottinger Street, a few English merchants had established themselves, and the house which long continued to be known as the Commercial Inn was a place of great resort. On the west of D'Aguiar Street, not then so named, building was going on, and just opposite to it was a small house called the Bird Cage, out of which was hatched the Hongkong Dispensary. All the space between Wyndham Street and Wellington Street was garden ground, with an imposing flat-roofed house in it, built by Mr. Brain, of the firm of Dent & Co. That great firm had its quarters where the Hongkong Hotel is now, and further on was Lindsay & Co.'s house. All else on the north side of the street was blank, on to the Artillery Barracks, which were building. On the south of the street was the Harbour Master's establishment on Pedder's Hill; and as conspicuous as are new Messrs Heard & Co.'s Offices [now Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's offices], which have been manufactured from it, rose the house of Mr. Johnston, who had been administrator of the island on its first occupancy. On the Parade Ground was a small mat building, which was the Colonial Church, and above it, about where the Cathedral and Government Offices now stand, were the unpretending Government Offices of that early time and the Post-Office. Far up, if I recollect aright, might be seen a range of barracks, out

of which have been fashioned the present Albany residences, and beyond the site of the present Government House was a small bungalow where Sir Henry Pottinger and Sir John Davis after him held their court. Crossing the bridge from the Artillery Barracks, there were some poor buildings for military purposes where the Naval Yard now is, and the houses of Gemmell & Co. and Fletcher & Co. the former of which has since been metamorphosed into the Commissariat Offices. On the right was the General's House, looking much as it does now, and below it was the Canton Bazaar, mainly occupied by troops.

"Following the bend of the road, one met with a few Chinese houses on the bluff opposite the present Military Hospital, and on from them a little way was the cemetery, still a small enclosed space, which, it had been thought, would be sufficient for the needs of the colony. [The monuments, and tombstones, and remains were removed in 1890 to the present Cemetery.] Beyond that hardly any buildings were met with, till we came to Spring Gardens, where two or three English firms had begun to occupy the ground on the left. Then came Hospital Hill, with diminutive buildings on it, devoted to the same purposes as the larger erections that now crown it; and Morrison Hill, where the school of the Morrison Education Society was in vigorous action, with the Hospital of the Medical Missionary Society, the foundations of which can hardly be traced now, but where I found hospitable quarters for several months. Arrived at the Happy Valley, there were to be seen only fields of rice and sweet potatoes. At the south end of it was the village of Wong-nei-ch'ung just as at the present day, and on the heights above it were rising two or three foreign houses, with an imposing one on the east of the valley, built by a Mr. Mercer of Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s House. All these proved homes of fever or death, and were soon abandoned.

"Beyond the Valley somewhere was a range of buildings, which had already become tabooed as unhealthy, and then came the offices of the great Firm, with the workmen still busy about them, and far from being what they are at the present day.

"If I have omitted to mention in this retrospective view of Victoria as I first saw it any of the foreign houses then existing, they can only be a very few. When I contrast the single street, imperfectly lined with hastily raised houses and a few sporadic buildings on the barren hill-side, with the city into which they have grown, with its prays, its imposing terraces, and many magnificent residences, I think one must travel far to find another spot where human energy and skill have triumphed to such an extent over difficulties of natural position. I sometimes fancy Britannia standing on the Peak, and looking down with an emotion of

pride on the great Babylon which her sons have built.

"Although I was charmed with the general appearance of the place, and the energy that was manifest in laying out the ground and pushing on building, I found many of the residents oppressed with gloom because of its unhealthiness. 1843 was, no doubt, a very sickly year, more so, perhaps, than any one has been since. The left wing of the 55th Regiment lost a hundred men between the end of June and the beginning of September, and was then removed from its quarters of which I have spoken on board ship. Many civilians also fell victims to Hongkong fever. The mortality was mainly owing to the want of accommodation for the multitudes who kept pressing into the new colony, and to the miasma set free from the ground which was everywhere being turned up. I remember visiting officers who were living in small huts reared on the hill behind the General's house. It was no wonder that one after another they were seized with fever, and either died or were invalided home. Then the drains were for the time all open, and an atmosphere of disease, which only the strongest constitutions and prudent living were able to resist, might be said to envelop the inhabitants day and night.

"Returning from this digression on the health of the Colony, I may observe that before the end of 1843, I moved from the Morrison Hill to a house in D'Aguilar Street, that now forming the offices of Lapraik & Co. It was then a very different house from the present, and hardly half the size, but I had to pay \$130 a month for it. Those were good days for parties who had houses to let. In the following year I moved to a house in Hollywood Road, which I had built, and which was subsequently for many years the printing office of the London Missionary Society. From these two houses I used to walk to the Post Office which I have mentioned, when there was any arrival in the harbour by which I might expect letters. If there were any letters for me I got them; and then the postmaster would say, 'Here are letters also for so and so, and so and so, and so and so, in your neighbourhood. Please oblige me by taking them with you, and sending your coolie on with them.' We used to get our home-letters on then from Bombay by fast sailing clippers. It was an era when the *Lady Mary Wood* came in with the Mail on the 13th August, 1845. She was the first of the P. & O.'s Mail steamers, and her passengers had been, I think, 55 days on the way from London to Hongkong. And now have we not the same noble company's steamers coming in twice a month in much shorter time, and the French steamers, and those of the Pacific Mail Company? above all, have we not the Electric Telegraph, flashing news almost instantaneously from this to home, from home to this, Ariel-like putting its girdle round the earth? Verily the difference is great between that time and this.

Up to this time the progress of the Colony had been remarkable, and great expectations were entertained as to its future, expectations which have since been amply fulfilled; but for some years after the establishment of peace little headway was made. The following extract from the City article of the *Times* of the 6th April, 1846, expresses the then prevalent feeling of despondency:—"Hongkong has quite lost caste as a place for mercantile operations. Many of the merchants have already abandoned the island. Since the beginning of the present year two firms have given up their establishments, two more of old standing have expressed their determination to quit the Colony, and two others are hesitating about following their example, or at most of leaving a clerk in possession to forward goods or letters." In 1847 a parliamentary commission was appointed "to take into consideration the present state of our commercial relations with China." The evidence given respecting Hongkong was of a very gloomy character, and the commission reported *inter alia* as follows:—

"From Hongkong we cannot be said to have derived directly much commercial advantage, nor, indeed, does it seem to be likely, by its position, to become the seat of an extended commerce. It has no considerable population of its own to feed or clothe, and has no right to expect to draw away the established trade of the populous town and province of Canton, to which it is adjacent. From the only traffic for which it is fitted, that of a depot for the neighbouring coasts, it is in a great degree debarred, except in regard to the Five Ports. b. Treaties which stipulate distinctly for the observance of this restriction. In addition, however, to these natural and necessary disadvantages, it appears to have laboured under others, created by a system of monopolies and farms, and petty regulations, peculiarly unsuited to its position, and prejudicial to its progress. These seem to have arisen partly from an attempt to struggle with the difficulties in the way of establishing order and security in the midst of the vagabond and piratical population which frequent its waters and infest its coasts, and partly from a desire to raise a revenue in the island in some degree adequate to the maintenance of its Civil Government. To this latter object, however, we think it unwise to sacrifice the real interests of the Settlement, which can only prosper under the greatest amount of freedom of intercourse and traffic which is consistent with the engagements of Treaties and internal order; nor do we think it right that the burden of maintaining that which is rather a port for general influence and the protection of the general trade in the China Seas than a Colony in the ordinary sense, should be thrown in any

great degree on the merchants or other persons who may be resident upon it.

"To the revision of the whole system we would call the early attention of the Government, as well as to that of the establishment of the Settlement, which, we cannot but think, has been placed on a footing of needless expense.

"Inconvenience appears to arise also from the dependence of the Governor on two departments of administration at home. As Governor of a colony, he is responsible to the Colonial Office; as in a manner representative of the Crown to a Foreign Court and Superintendent of Trade, to the Foreign Office. It would be well if this relation could be simplified.

"We would also recommend that some short Code should be drawn up for the more convenient administration of justice, as a substitute for that general reference to the laws of England, as far as they are applicable to the case, which in this, as in some other Colonies, is the sole rule of guidance, and creates much confusion and embarrassment. That drafts of all new laws and regulations, unless of an urgent nature, should, as in India, be published for three or six months before they are finally enacted. That a share in the administration of the ordinary and local affairs of the island should be given, by some system of municipal government, to the British residents."

One of the principal witnesses examined before the Commission was Mr. Montgomery Martin, who in 1844, when Her Majesty's Treasurer for the Colonial and Consular Service in China and member of the Legislative Council, had reported most unfavourably on the island. Sir John Davis, who had succeeded Sir Henry Pottinger in the Government in 1844, being asked for a statement of his opinions on the points raised in Mr. Martin's report, took an entirely contrary view of the prospects of the island. "Time alone," he wrote, "is required for the development of this Colony, and for the correction of some evils which have hindered its early progress. Even now, however, the town of Victoria, which has scarcely existed three years (1845), is fast gaining on Macao, which has been established three centuries. Our merchants have all abandoned the latter place, to which they were for some time attracted by the superiority of the dwellings. Under any circumstances this Colony will always exercise a most important check on the Chinese Government." His Excellency commented to the same effect on the report of the Parliamentary Commission on Commercial Relations with China, and pointed to the increase of the population as a proof of progress. The population did indeed grow and there must have been some growth of trade to cause it, but the complaints of the foreign merchants continued for several years.

In 1843 Sir John Davis retired from the Go-

vernment owing to the disapproval by Earl Grey's Government of his action in connection with outrages on British subjects at Canton. In a despatch dated 24th November, 1847, Earl Grey wrote:—

"I have received from the Governor of Ceylon a despatch dated the 22nd of September last, communicating to me an application which had been made to the Major-General commanding Her Majesty's Forces in that island, by Major-General d'Aguilar, for a reinforcement of half a company of artillery with two guns, and a proportionate supply of ammunition, to be held in readiness to be forwarded to Hongkong should circumstances render it necessary to undertake any further military operations at Canton.

"I have desired the Governor of Ceylon not to send to Hongkong the detachment for which application has been made by Major-General d'Aguilar, and I have now to signify to you that Her Majesty's Government peremptorily forbid any further offensive operations to be undertaken against the Chinese, without their previous sanction. Her Majesty's Government are satisfied that, although the late operations in the Canton River were attended with immediate success, the risk of a second attempt of the same kind would far overbalance any advantage to be derived from such a step. If the conduct of the Chinese authorities should, unfortunately, render another appeal to arms inevitable, it will be necessary that it should be made after due preparation, and with the employment of such an amount of force as may afford just grounds for expecting that the objects which may be porposed by such a measure will be effectually accomplished without unnecessary loss."

While this despatch was on its way out another dreadful outrage occurred. Six young men belonging to various houses in the Canton factories, having landed at a village about four miles up the river, were captured by the natives, murdered, and their bodies treated with indignity. The Canton Authorities, while the young men were known to be in danger but to be still alive, had remained indifferent to the representations made to them by the Consul, and allowed the tragedy to be enacted without any effort on their part to prevent it. Upon this Sir John Davis directed a naval demonstration at the Bogue, and a company of the 95th Regiment was ordered to Canton to witness the execution of four men represented by the Chinese as having been implicated in the affair, though they were generally supposed to have known nothing about it.

Sir John Davis died only on the 13th November, 1890, in his ninety-sixth year. He was a member of Lord Amherst's mission to Peking in 1816-17, was afterwards in the employ of the East India Co., was associated with Captain

Elliot in the Superintendency of Trade, and had retired on a pension when he was recalled to the public service to take charge of the Government of this colony. His book, "China and the Chinese," still remains one of the most interesting that has been published on the subject.

Sir George Bonham was the next Governor. From this point the narrative may be carried on for a few years by the following extract from the lecture by Dr Legge already alluded to:—

"What trade had sprung up during its first years had rather decreased under Sir John Davis, and it was not till about 1854 that it received a fresh impulse. I remember walking, in 1849, one afternoon with old Mr. Holliday—so we should call him now with his stalwart sons among us—and having a gloomy conversation with him on the state and prospects of the place. Taking our stand at a point a little beyond what is now St. Paul's College, where we had a good view of the harbour, we counted 28 square-rigged vessels in it, storeships and all, with hardly a steamer among them. 'After all,' said Mr. Holliday, 'there must be some trade, else those vessels would not come to the place.' By and by came the emigration to California, and afterwards that to Australia, but though these produced some excitement, they did little to the furtherance of trade. In 1850 the T'ae-p'ing rebellion began to be talked of, and, Sir George Bonham going on a visit to England, Dr. Bowring came down from his consulate in Canton to take his place, which finally became his own, when the other vacated his office in 1854, leaving his name in the Bonham Strand.

"About this time Yeh, whose name ere long became notorious all over the world, and who had for some time been governor of Canton province, was appointed viceroy of the two Kwang. The T'ae-p'ing rebels made themselves masters of Nanking, and the south and seaboard of China began to heave with rebellion. One body made itself master of Fat-shan, and Canton was threatened. Yeh however, maintained himself there, keeping his executioners busy. The numbers put to death in 1852 and 1853 were very many every month, and they greatly multiplied, as the insurgents were gradually got under. It has always seemed to me that this was the turning point in the progress of Hongkong. As Canton was threatened, the families of means hastened to leave it, and many of them flocked to this colony. Houses were in demand; rents rose; the streets that had been comparatively deserted assumed a crowded appearance; new commercial Chinese firms were founded; the native trade received an impetus which it did not lose till it was arrested by the superfluous vigour of some of Sir Richard MacDonnell's early ordinances."

By 1853 the colony had become self-supporting; it had previously been in receipt of a parliamentary grant of £60,000. Then came the Arrow war of

1857-60, which, to quote from Mr. W. Keswick's paper read before the Royal Colonial Institute, "gave the greatest impetus to the growth of Hongkong by transferring to the colony in a great measure the trade of Canton, and practically making it the port of Kwangtung, and the seat of newly awakened native enterprise." The Arrow was seized on the 8th October, 1856, and there followed a period of hostility, and then a waiting for troops before the war proper began. It was while things were in this state that the diabolical attempt to murder the European inhabitants of Hongkong by poisoning the bread was made. Most of them obtained their bread from a baker named Alum, and on the 15th January, 1857, all who partook of it had good reason to regret it. Dr. Legge says in his lecture:—"I was one of those who partook of the poison. I did so twice, early in the morning and again at breakfast time, soon getting rid, however, of all the noxious matter through violent paroxysms of sickness. Never was such a day of excitement in the colony, and had Alum been caught at once he would have been lynched beyond a doubt, but he had gone off with all his family by the early steamer to Macao. Being pursued thither and brought back he was subsequently brought to trial and acquitted, the guilt of the deed being thrown by him on his foreman and another man, who had made their escape. He was subsequently kept in gaol at large for some time, and there I made his acquaintance. He was a tall imposing-looking man for a Chinese and had been well educated. The respect and deference shown to him by all the prisoners were wonderful. On the Sundays, when I went to conduct a religious service with them, he quite took me under his patronage, had the books ready, and maintained perfect order among all who attended." The reason the poison did not prove fatal to those who took it was that it had been mixed with the bread in such quantity as to act as an emetic. Subsequently a civil action was brought against Alum by Mr. Tarrant for selling unwholesome bread. The Attorney-General, who appeared for the plaintiff, abandoning all suggestion of guilty knowledge on the part of the defendant, rested his case upon the common-law obligation cast upon a baker to sell only bread fit for the food of man. The presence of arsenic was fully proved, and the jury returned a verdict for \$1,010. A point of law was reserved, but was decided in Mr. Tarrant's favour. Alum afterwards left the colony, and it was reported some years ago that he was at Saigon.

When the troops for the war arrived the colony was a busy and crowded place. Mr. Wingrove Cooke, the *Times* correspondent, dating his letter the 24th May, 1857, the day after his arrival, writes:—"A gentleman who should 'go to Hongkong' in the present state of affairs, although he may have his pocket

full of dollars, is not unlikely to have to sleep upon the pavement of Queen's Road, and will be indebted to the protection of the Malay (? Sikh) guard if his throat be not cut before the morning. It is a town of capital houses, but its powers of accommodation are not capable of indefinite expansion. The flight from Canton and other causes have filled it. General Garrett and his staff, who might reasonably have anticipated some preparation for their reception, found it convenient to sleep on board the steamer, and were glad to shelter themselves where they might. The General, on the day after his arrival, with great difficulty got a room at an inn, and his suite were happy to avail themselves of the hospitality of the Hongkong Club."

Sir John Bowring retired in 1859, leaving his name in the Bowring Canal and Bowrington Praya. He was the last Governor who united the office with that of Minister Plenipotentiary and Superintendent of Trade. The period of his rule was a decidedly lively one, the quarrels of officials as well as the more important questions connected with our relations with China and the administration of the colony furnishing the public prints with abundant material for discussion.

After Sir John Bowring's departure the Government was administered for a few months by Lieut-Colonel W. Caine, Lieut.-Governor—the same officer who was appointed Chief Magistrate in 1841; he was a prominent figure in the colony during the whole period of his residence, and was a party to some notable libel trials in connection with attacks upon his reputation. He had on a previous occasion administered the Government during the absence of Sir John Bowring, and it is from him that Caine Road takes its name.

In the earlier days of the colony, when the town consisted principally of matchsheds, fires were of frequent occurrence, and even after brick buildings had sprung up the risk from this cause remained considerable. It was not until the later sixties that the Fire Brigade was organised. Up to that time outbreaks were dealt with in a happy-go-lucky style, the blowing up of the surrounding houses being the chief means relied on for preventing the spread of the flames. On the 19th October, 1857, a somewhat serious fire occurred. Breaking out in the Commercial Hotel, the flames spread eastward, destroying the Victoria Exchange, four Chinese shops adjoining, Mrs. Marsh's millinery rooms, and the Hongkong Dispensary. The Roman Catholic Cathedral in Wellington Street being then under repair, the matchshed which had been erected over it was ignited by a spark, and the Cathedral and the schools adjoining were consumed.

The next Governor was Sir Hercules Robinson (1859), who began his administration under favourable circumstances. Dr. Legge, referring

to this period, says:—"The treaty of Tientsin had given a considerable impulse to trade, and soon the concentration in the colony of the large force for the second expedition to the North produced a great circulation of money and increased the demand for house accommodation. Building went on rapidly, the value of ground rose immensely, fortunes were realised by many. Most of this, however, was merely a temporary and factitious prosperity, though Sir Hercules seemed to think, as many others did, that it was real and that to-morrow would be as this day and much more abundant." Sir Hercules Robinson's period of office was a busy one in the Public Works Department. It was in his time that the first attempt was made to provide a public water supply, the Pokfulam Works being commenced. Previous to that the colony was dependent on wells, springs, and the running streams, and during the dry season the inconvenience, not to say suffering, caused by scarcity of water was serious. Another great work was the construction of the original Praya wall and the reclamation of the land between it and the houses on the northern side of Queen's Road. Up to that time no public road properly so called had existed along the water frontage. The present gaol was also built by Sir Hercules, as well as the prison on Stonecutter's Island, the latter, however, not being used very long for the purpose for which it was erected. Another considerable, but unsuccessful, undertaking was the establishment of a Mint, which, if it could have survived a few years longer, would have derived more than sufficient profit for its maintenance from the subsidiary coinage and would have been of great advantage to the colony. Soon after Sir Hercules left, however, it was closed, the building being sold and used as a sugar refinery; it is now the property of the China Sugar Refining Company, Limited. During Sir Hercules Robinson's government a commencement was also made with the laying out of the Public Gardens, and Robinson Road was formed. Turning from public works we find His Excellency, amongst other measures, inaugurating the cadet system, by which the colony has been supplied with capable officials, and establishing the Education Department on an improved basis, and towards the end of his term the Companies Ordinance, which has had such a potent effect on the commercial development of the colony, was introduced. It was during Sir Hercules Robinson's time, too, that Kowloon was added to the colony. Before the final settlement at Peking this territory had been granted on perpetual lease to Mr. Harry Parkes, then Consul at Canton, and the Convention of Peace signed at Peking on the 24th October, 1860, provided as follows:—

"With a view to the maintenance of law and order in and about the harbour of Hongkong, His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China

agrees to cede to Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Her heirs and successors, to have and to hold as a dependency of Her Britannic Majesty's colony of Hongkong that portion of the township of Kowloon, in the province of Kwangtung, of which a lease was granted in perpetuity to Harry Smith Parkes, Esquire, Companion of the Bath, a member of the Allied Commission at Canton, on behalf of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, by Lau Tsung-kwang, Governor-General of the Two Kwang."

On the 27th July, 1862, a typhoon swept over Hongkong, Macao, Whampoa, and Canton, being felt most severely at Whampoa. The loss of life was estimated at 40,000, but only a comparatively small proportion of this occurred at Hongkong. In the harbour not much damage was done, but on shore all the matsheds were blown down and several Chinese houses, a number of persons being killed in the latter. Amongst the events of this period must also be recorded a great rainstorm which occurred on the 7th June, 1864, which flooded a number of houses, demolished several, and caused some loss of life. Another event, happily of a different character, which occurred during the same year was the introduction of gas.

The following remarks by Dr. Legge on crime in the colony may here be introduced:—"I would distinguish two eras, that of violent burglary and that of piracy. Not that there were not piracies in the earlier time and burglaries in the latter, but the one and the other preponderated in the two eras and may be considered to characterise them. The former may be said to have continued down to the beginning of 1836, when a daring attack was made on several native shops at East Point. For several years, however, before that, it had been declining, owing mainly to the increasing numbers and greater vigour of the police force. These robberies were at first conducted with an astonishing audacity. In January, 1844, to give only one instance, what is now Mr. De Souza's printing office—(this was written in 1872)—was occupied by Mrs. White, the wife of one of the present members for Brighton, who was himself in Shanghai at the time. He was one of the early notabilities of the colony, and founded the *Friend of China*, which was published here and in Shanghai for many years by very different hands. Well; on the night of the 23rd January the bungalow was attacked by an armed band of about thirty individuals. Their object was plunder; and without attempting any violence to Mrs. White or a young lady who was staying with her, they proceeded systematically to accomplish their purpose. A little down the hill were the headquarters of a Madras regiment. The young lady tripped down, and gave the alarm there, and soon a party of sepoy was led up to the scene by an officer; but the brigands stood one discharge of their muskets and it was said, did not flee till

the ramrods were ringing in the barrels for a second, one of their number being left bleeding to death on the floor. When burglary on this scale could no longer be attempted with success or safety, bands of robbers attempted to carry out their attempts by tunnelling from the large drains under the premises which they had marked. There was a rumour of a scheme to re-enact the gunpowder plot by means of a tunnel under the Cathedral, when the Governor, the Bishop, and the congregation were to be blown up. The facts of this case, however, if there were any, I could never satisfactorily ascertain. The most successful exploit of this kind was perpetrated so late as January, 1865—(4th February was the exact date)—by a gang who tunneled by the hard labour of several weeks right under the treasury of the Central Bank of India, and carried off upwards of \$100,000 in gold bullion and notes. In 1863 twenty-two prisoners made their escape from the gaol by tunnelling under it into a drain, and not long after I did the service to the Government of disconcerting a scheme on a large scale, by which within a few hours eighty-nine men would have got away."

Sir Hercules Robinson left in 1861, and the Government was administered by Mr. William Thomas Mercer until the arrival of Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell the following year.

The year 1865 witnessed great mortality amongst the troops, and in March, 1866, a Parliamentary Committee was appointed to inquire into the subject. From the 1st March, 1865, to the same date, 1866, the 2nd Battalion 9th Regiment, out of a strength of 833 men, lost 20 men by death and invaliding home; the total deaths were 85, or one-tenth of the strength. The 2nd Battalion 11th Regiment, out of a strength of 715 men, between the 1st June, 1865, and 1st March, 1866, a period of nine months, lost 258 men by deaths and invaliding, or more than one-third of their strength; the total deaths were 94, or more than one-eighth. The 99th Regiment also suffered severely. The Committee found that the principal causes of the mortality were:—(1) The unhealthiness of the season of 1865; (2) exposure to heat and malaria on duty; but (3) that the chief cause was want of barrack accommodation for the number of troops stationed at Hongkong and Kowloon, the inadequacy of the huts and hired buildings to the sanitary requirements of Europeans, and the occupation of huts at Kowloon during the progress of excavations.

Sir Richard MacDonnell arrived in March, 1866, at a time when the Colony was entering on a period of depression. The termination of the American war had brought to an end the excessive speculation in Chinese cotton, and the panic in which the failure of Overend, Gurney and Co. took place entailed ruin on some of the

old established China houses and the banks doing business here. There was difficulty in making ends meet and the Stamp Duty was established. A commission was also appointed to consider the expediency of discontinuing the mint, which was a losing concern, and as a result the unfortunate step of closing the establishment was taken. To bring the evil of gambling under control a gambling Farm was established, which brought in substantial revenue, and was also, in the opinion of Sir Richard himself, as well as of some others, effective in attaining to some extent the purpose for which it was established. The home Government, however, disapproved of it and it was discontinued, the amount of the revenue that had been derived from it being set aside as a special fund to be used for the benefit of the Chinese. The money was partly employed in building the Tung Wah Hospital and the balance, years afterwards, to defray in part the cost of the Tytam waterworks. Previous to the establishment of the Tung Wah Hospital no means of assistance for the indigent sick amongst the Chinese population existed, and the moribund were taken to what were called "dying houses," where they were left to breathe out the remnant of their existence without care or attention of any kind. The good the Hospital has done in its proper sphere is incalculable. It was, however, for many years looked upon with suspicion on account of the supposed desire of the committee to utilize the organisation it gave them as a means of setting up a political *imperium in imperio*. Whatever attempt there may have been in this direction, however, proved futile and was in the course of a few years abandoned, and the institution has ceased to be regarded by the European community with distrust. Previous to the arrival of Sir Richard piracy had been lifting its head again, and in order to cope with it, as well as for the suppression of crime within the colony itself, he passed some very drastic Ordinances through the Legislative Council. Not many public works were carried out at this time, but mention of the extension of the waterworks should not be omitted.

A grave constitutional question had also to be dealt with by Sir Richard, namely the proposal to establish a Chinese Consulate in the Colony. Sir Rutherford Alcock, the Minister to Peking, was at that time negotiating a new treaty, and on the 5th December, 1868, Prince Kung submitted certain proposed regulations, of which the following was the first:—

"In consequence of the numerous channels into which the route from Hongkong to Canton divides itself, there is great opportunity for smuggling, and vessels are constantly evading the payment of duties by taking a circuitous course so as to avoid the barrier. As great loss results to the revenue from this cause, it is proposed that the Chinese Government should appoint officials to reside at Hongkong for the express purpose of attending to the collection of du-

ties in the interest of the Customs revenue. Rules for regulating the collection of duties by such officials can be subsequently agreed upon."

To this Sir Rutherford Alcock replied that he presumed "a Consul might be conceded with the same rights in such matters as any other nation could claim in British territories." Sir Richard MacDonnell, however, took a very different view. When the question was referred to him by the Colonial Office, he summoned a meeting of the Executive Council, at which the unofficial members were invited to assist, to consider the despatch, and in his reply he reported that the unanimous judgment, arrived at unhesitatingly and without the least difference of opinion, was wholly opposed to authorising the appointment of a Chinese Consul to reside at Hongkong. In giving the reasons for this decision, he showed that China was not in the same position as other Treaty Powers either to demand or expect such a concession, her diplomatic relations being the result of special Treaty stipulations imposed by force of arms; and her not having thrown her country open to foreigners, nor admitted foreign commerce, except in a narrow and limited manner, disqualified her from expecting those rights which she withholds from others. His Excellency proceeded:—

"Although the above considerations dispose of any right or just expectation of China in the matter, we should have felt no objection to the concession if it were not certain to be attended with serious injury both to native and foreign interests here. A Consul for Hongkong, whilst he ought to be useless for Prince Kung's object of collecting Chinese taxes, would certainly cause most serious alarm to all the native population, whose residence here has hitherto afforded them comparative immunity from the petty espionage and squeezing of their own mandarins.

"Your Lordship has to remember that, whilst all the population here is in the immediate vicinity of the mainland, the great majority of the influential native residents own property and have children and other near relatives residing there. The instances are numerous of Hongkong native residents being compelled to pay from time to time large squeezes and exactions to the authorities at Canton, because a refusal to do so would lead to the seizure of their property in China and to the imprisonment and even torture of their immediate relatives. In the last war with China an order from Canton recalled almost all the Chinese and the servants in this place within twenty-four hours—so that the European residents had to clean their boots and cook their dinners themselves."

Further on in the same despatch occurs the following passage:—"We believe that such a creation of an *imperium in imperio* would produce alarm and dissatisfaction among Chinese.

residents here; and that, by unnecessarily pressing or the Chinese the adoption of such a measure Her Majesty's Government would be taking the surest course to develop during times of peace the worst vices of Chinese rule in a population under British protection; and on the other hand, in the event of approaching disturbances, or the cessation of friendly relations with Peking, we should be creating in our midst a dangerous centre for rebellion, plots, and hostile action."

These views prevailed with Her Majesty's Government and no provision for the appointment of a Chinese Consul at Hongkong was made in the treaty. The treaty, such as it was, never came into force, being refused ratification by Great Britain.

Sir Richard MacDonnell also protested vigorously though ineffectually against the blockade of Hongkong by Chinese cruisers, which was established in his time and remained a standing grievance for many years.

Although the community was supposed to be suffering from hard times during the period of Sir Richard MacDonnell's Government it was at this time that the City Hall was erected. The first stone was laid on the 23rd February, 1867, by the Governor, who at the banquet which followed said "he could not but feel that his claims to laying the foundation stone of the City Hall were trivial compared with those of other residents more especially connected with them by ties of local interest and great commercial investments. He felt this strongly as he had walked down that morning to the site of the new building for when he looked to the west he could almost discern that noble institution the Sailors' Home, and from the same place on turning to the east could view the equally valuable and handsome building the Seamen's Hospital, both founded by the thoughtful munificence of the great house of Jardine, Matheson & Co. Who therefore was so especially entitled to take a prominent part in an undertaking like the present as the present respected representative of that house, more particularly when it was entirely owing to the contribution of the same firm that the funds had been completed which enabled them to inaugurate that day the commencement of the City Hall." His Excellency, having referred to the bad times and the unhealthiness which had prevailed in 1865, said: "Yet with so much to depress, that day had nevertheless witnessed the community, unaided by Government or by anything except by enduring pluck and self reliance, laying the foundation of the largest and most costly edifice yet attempted to be raised in this part of the world." In conclusion His Excellency said:—"Above all they would join him in the hope that the same sturdy self-relying spirit which had commenced the City Hall in the city's days of

depression would not desert the community, but would be worthily maintained till it had achieved, ere the completion of the building, a return of the old prosperity, which he trusted might endure as long as the foundation he had that day laid." On the occasion of our Jubilee and the circumstances under which it is being celebrated, it may not be thought altogether inappropriate to recall these words. The City Hall was opened on the 2nd November, 1869, by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, whose visit to the colony was made the occasion of great rejoicing.

The Seamen's Hospital mentioned by the Governor in the remarks above quoted has since ceased to exist as a separate institution, the work it was designed for being now performed by the Civil Hospital.

On the 30th October, 1866, that part of the town extending from the Praya up as far as Gap Street and from Suherland Street to Morrison Street was swept by fire, and in November of the following year another great fire occurred, destroying the whole of the houses in the district between Queen's Road and the Praya from the Cross Roads to the Harbour Office. On the 8th September, 1867, occurred a typhoon in which six vessels lying in the harbour were driven ashore, while two sank at their anchorage.

On the 2nd June, 1871, the laying of the telegraph cable was completed and Hongkong was placed in telegraphic communication with the rest of the world.

In 1872 Sir Richard MacDonnell was succeeded by Sir Arthur Edward Kennedy, the most popular Governor Hongkong has ever known. On his arrival he found the blockade the burning question, and recognising the injury that was being done to the trade, he entered into the subject warmly, pressed it on the Imperial Government, and was so successful that he brought the Downing Street Authorities to recognise, which they had not before done, that the colony had a just cause of complaint. The result was that in the Chefoo Convention a provision was inserted that a Commission should be appointed to bring about some arrangement whereby the Chinese Authorities should be able to collect their revenue without prejudice to the commercial interests of this colony. It was not until a good many years afterwards that this provision was acted upon, but finally the labours of Sir Arthur and his predecessor bore fruit. When Sir Arthur assumed the reins of office the infamous opium traffic at Macao was flourishing like a green bay tree. He was deeply impressed with its nefarious character, and lest some of those engaged in it should attempt to connect Hongkong with it, he caused a stringent Ordinance to be prepared prohibiting anyone in the colony from having an interest in the trade. This was passed in May, 1873. In April of the following year he had the satisfac-

sion of seeing the traffic finally put a stop to through the intervention of Great Britain and other Powers, who had become scandalised by the enormities carried on in connection with it. Under his administration, too, the peace and good order of the colony was advanced, the Police Force was improved, knock-down robberies, formerly so frequent, became things of the past, and piracy was diminished. Sir Arthur also took a keen interest in education, and it was in his time that the site for the new Central School, unfortunately allowed to lie unutilized so long afterwards, was acquired. Public works also made progress, amongst the most important being the lighting of the approaches to the harbour. That popular promenade, the Kennedy Road, was a creation of Sir Arthur's and was successfully carried through against the strong opposition of the military authorities. It was at this time, too, that the development of the Hill District commenced. The roads to the Peak and from Victoria Gap to Pokfulam were already in existence, but the houses, including Mountain Lodge and the Sanitarium, afterwards known as the Austin Arms, did not exceed half-a-dozen. During Sir Arthur Kennedy's government a road was made from Victoria Gap along the southern side of Mount Gough to Wanchai Gap and another branching off from it to Aberdeen. A new district was thus opened up, and since then building has gone on apace, branch roads in various directions have been called for, and at the present time there are nearly a hundred houses on the heights, a large proportion of the European residents spending the summer months there. Sir Arthur did not remain long enough to see this great development, but it was he who gave it its initiative. Another work was planned and approved at this time, the reconstruction of the Praya wall, affording protection for the sea frontage against damage by typhoons. The question, still unsettled, of the continuation of the Praya in front of the military and naval property was also agitated by Sir Arthur. The waterworks, which had already been extended by Sir Richard MacDonnell, had again been overtaken by the ever-increasing population, and the necessity of a further supply being recognised, the Tytarn scheme was drawn up at his instance and approved by the Secretary of State, but had not been commenced when Sir Arthur left, and was afterwards shelved for a number of years.

On the night of the 23rd September, 1874, occurred a most terrific typhoon, in which nearly twenty vessels were wrecked and over two thousand lives lost, great damage also being done on shore. Difficulty was experienced in getting labour to remove the dead bodies washed up after the storm was over, and fears were entertained of pestilence being caused by the horrid effluvia they caused.

Sir Arthur Kennedy left for Queensland, to

the government of which colony he had been appointed, on the 1st March, 1877, carrying with him the affection and hearty good wishes of the community. He died six years later, on the 3rd June, 1883, on board the steamer *Orient*, near Aden, while on his passage home from Queensland. The news of his death was received in Hongkong with much regret, and on the 10th November, 1887, a fine bronze statue of him, erected by public subscription, was unveiled in the Public Gardens.

In the short interregnum between the departure of Sir Arthur Kennedy and the arrival of his successor, the Government was administered by Mr. J. Gardiner Austin, who had also been administrator for some months in 1874 during the absence of the Governor.

The next Governor was Sir John Pope Hennessy, who arrived on the 22nd April, 1877, and remained until the 7th March, 1882. The period of his government was a stormy one. His Excellency was entirely out of sympathy with the British and Foreign community, and quarrels between him and his officials as well as private individuals were of constant occurrence. It was not only his policy but the methods by which he sought to give effect to it that were objected to. A considerable increase of crime which took place was attributed to the working of his measures, and on the 7th October, 1878, a public meeting on the subject was held. The meeting was to have been held in the City Hall, but on the arrival of the European community at the time appointed they found the room so fully packed with Chinese, brought there by skilful prearrangement on the part of the Governor's friends, that an adjournment had to be made to the Cricket Ground, where a series of resolutions condemning the Governor's policy was passed. After this the friction still continued, and when Sir John Pope Hennessy left, ostensibly on six months' leave of absence, it was generally believed that he would not return. This proved to be the case, an exchange between him and Governor Sir George Bowen, then Governor of Mauritius, being arranged.

It was during Sir John Pope Hennessy's term of office that a Chinese member of the Legislative Council was first appointed. The period was also marked by the removal of the restriction on the Chinese holding property in the centre of the town, a measure which was largely taken advantage of, the Europeans moving eastwards and up the hill to makeroom for them. The holders of property which changed hands in this movement made large profits by the transfer, and a mania of land speculation set in which on its collapse wrought much ruin. Public works were for the most part at a standstill from 1877 to 1882. Sir John Pope Hennessy was a strong advocate for a new goal, and in the endeavour to accomplish this object almost everything else was held in abeyance, not-

ably the new Central School, for which the site had been purchased by his predecessor, and the Tytam Waterworks scheme. The idea of establishing an observatory, however, received favour in his eyes, and the project was duly carried out. To Sir John Pope Hennessy, also, the colony is indebted for the inauguration of an adequate scheme for the afforestation of the island, the carrying out of which has effected gratifying results in the beautifying of our surroundings and, as many believe, in the amelioration of the climate.

The crime which brought the indignation of the community to boiling point and led to the calling of the public meeting above alluded to was an armed attack on a hong in Wing Lok Street by men who landed from boats. On the police arriving on the scene a fight took place, but the attackers were able to make good their retreat, leaving only one man behind, who had been shot dead. The police gigs pursued, but were unable to overtake the pirates' boats. This showed the inadequacy of gigs for the policing of the harbour, and steam launches are now employed.

On Christmas night, 1873, occurred one of the largest and most destructive fires the colony has ever known, an area of over ten acres, containing 368 houses, being laid waste. Commencing in Queen's Road, it extended up the hill to the houses immediately below the Police Station, taking large slices of Stanley Street, Wellington Street, Lynnhurst Terrace, Hollywood Road, Graham Street, Gutzlaff Street, Cochrane Street, and Pottinger Street in its course, while in the direction of the Praya it destroyed a number of houses in Endicott Lane, Tungmun Lane, Wing On Lane, and Gilman Street.

Another event of Sir John Pope Hennessy's term, of a very different character, was the visit, in December, 1881, of Princes Albert Victor and George of Wales, in whose honour the town was illuminated.

During the interregnum of twelve months between the departure of Sir John Pope Hennessy and the arrival of Sir George Bowen the Government was satisfactorily administered by Mr (afterwards Sir) William Henry Marsh.

Sir George Ferguson Bowen arrived on the 30th March, 1883. Under him the public works which had been suspended during Sir John Pope Hennessy's term were energetically prosecuted. The Tytam waterworks scheme was at once taken in hand, and Sir George Bowen's name is perpetuated in the road formed on the conduit which conducts the water into the town. On the 26th April, 1884, the foundation stone of Victoria College was laid by His Excellency. Attention was also given to the pressing question of sanitation, and the first Sanitary Board, the precursor of the present body, was constituted. Sir George Bowen was also an earnest advocate

for the effective fortification of the colony, and made strong representations to the Secretary of State on the subject. An important reform was effected, on his recommendation, in the reconstitution of the Legislative Council, the number of the unofficial members being increased from three to six, one of the additional members to be nominated by the Chamber of Commerce, one by the Bench of Justices, and one to be a member of the Chinese community. The first election by the Chamber of Commerce took place on the 2nd January, 1884, and that by the Justices on the 4th of the same month. During Sir George Bowen's time the Franco-Chinese hostilities were in progress, which materially added to the responsibilities of the Hongkong Government. On the 3rd October, 1884, while the Governor was absent in Japan and Mr. Marsh was Administrator, a serious riot took place owing to the infliction of a fine on some cargo-boat people for illegally refusing hire when their boat was required to take stores off to a French man-of-war. Their refusal was in obedience to the commands of the Viceroy of Canton that Chinese in Hongkong were not to do any work for the French, and the incident is illustrative of the influence the Chinese authorities are still able to exercise in the colony.

Sir George Bowen left Hongkong on the 19th December, 1885, and Mr. Marsh again became administrator, holding that office until his retirement in 1887. It was during this period that the blockade difficulty was at length adjusted. This subject had exercised every Governor and Administrator from the time of Sir Richard MacDonnell, and Sir George Bowen had made a special visit to Peking to confer with Sir Harry Parkes upon it. In the Supplementary Treaty concluded in 1843 by Sir Henry Pottinger and Keying it was provided that an English officer should be appointed at Hongkong, one part of whose duty it should be to examine the registers and passes of all Chinese vessels repairing to the port, that every Chinese vessel not provided with a pass or register from one of the five ports should be regarded as an unauthorised or smuggling vessel; and that a monthly return of the junk trade should be made to the Authorities at Canton. These provisions were never given practical effect to, and by the Treaty of Tientsin they were abrogated. The Chinese, although complaining that their revenue was defrauded by Hongkong being used as a basis for smuggling, took no active steps to interfere with the trade of the port until 1868, when the Viceroy of Canton established Customs stations at the entrances to the harbour, Sir Brooke Robertson, the Consul at Canton, informing him that he had a perfect right to establish such stations on the confines of British territory and to overhaul every junk. Energetic protests were made on behalf of the

colony, but it was decided that the Chinese were within their rights so long as they did not encroach on British water. Such encroachments by the cruises attached to the stations were, however, frequent; duties were levied on imports to and exports from the colony; and the service being farmed out and corruptly administered, great injustice to individual traders as well as an onerous burden to the trade in general was the result. The complaints led to the insertion in the Chefoo Convention of 1876 of a provision for the appointment of a commission "in order to the establishment of some system that shall enable the Chinese Government to protect its revenue without prejudice to the interests of the colony." No such Commission was, however, appointed until the negotiation of the Additional Article to the Convention in 1885, one of the clauses of which provided that the Commission should be appointed as soon as possible. The Commission accordingly met the following year, Hongkong being represented by Mr. (now Sir) James Russell, who had carefully studied the question from the commencement of the trouble in 1868. In the agreement arrived at by the Commission it was provided that the Government of Hongkong should submit to the Legislative Council an Ordinance for the regulation of the trade of the Colony in raw opium and for the amendment of the harbour regulations as to the night clearance of junks, and on the other hand that the Chinese should establish an office under the Foreign Inspectorate on Chinese territory at a convenient spot on the Kowloon side for the sale of Chinese opium duty certificates; that opium having paid the regular duty should be free from all further imposts of every sort; and that junks trading between Chinese ports and Hongkong and their cargoes should not be subject to any dues or duties over and above those paid or payable at the ports of clearance or destination. This agreement was duly carried into effect, and although the stations and cruises still exist the service is administered with the fairness characteristic of the Foreign Customs, and the honest trader is no longer subject to the arbitrary and illegal "squeezes" of the old system. In recognition of his services in negotiating the agreement Mr. Russell was made a C.M.G.

On the retirement of Mr. Marsh in April, 1887, Major-General Cameron became the Acting Governor and continued so until the arrival of Sir G. William Des Vœux on the 6th October, 1887. The principal measure passed during General Cameron's administration was the Public Health Ordinance, the provisions of which gave rise to much public discussion. The objections to the Ordinance have disappeared since it came into operation, and the public are now experiencing its benefits. By this Bill the Sanitary Board was legally constituted, replacing the informal body which previously bore the same name. Two of the members of this Board are elected

by the ratepayers, and on the 11th June, 1888, the colony for the first time in its history experienced the excitement of a popular election.

One of the first public functions in which Sir William Des Vœux had to take part after his arrival was the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, on the 9th November, 1887, when the town was illuminated on a magnificent scale and general rejoicings were indulged in. Of the measures passed during the present Governor's administration mention must first be made of the Praya Reclamation Ordinance, which provides for the reclamation of 57 acres of land, including a Praya 70 feet wide, together with other streets of an aggregate length of 5,518 yards. The memorial stone of this great work was laid on the 2nd April, 1890, by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, who, with the Duchess, was on a visit to the colony at that time. Other measures of importance passed by Sir William Des Vœux are the European District Reservation Ordinance, by which a certain portion of the town is reserved for houses built according to European models; an Ordinance providing for judicial investigations into the causes of fires, by which the number of fires seems to have been greatly diminished; and the Vaccination Ordinance, by which a certain amount of protection is secured against small-pox. A forward step in the cause of education has been taken in the establishment of a Central School for girls. Amongst the Public Works must be mentioned the Praya Reclamation above referred to, a new scheme of drainage on the separate system, the water distribution works, and the Gap Rock Lighthouse, all of which are now in progress and will be of great advantage to the colony. The establishment of a lighthouse on Gap Rock or some neighbouring spot had long been under consideration. Sir William Des Vœux at length brought the negotiations with the Chinese Government to a satisfactory issue, and the site having been selected, the first stone was laid on the 1st September, 1890, by the Hon. Francis Fleming, C.M.G., while Administrator, Sir William Des Vœux being absent from the 19th February to the 22nd December, 1890.

Another work which deserves mention, though not a Government one, is the Peak Tramway, by which easy access to the Hill District is afforded. The line was opened on the 30th May, 1888. A year later, on the 29th May, 1889, it sustained serious damage in the unparalleled rainstorm which then occurred, and traffic was interrupted for more than two months. A brief description of this storm may be given. After ten days of almost unbroken rain, during which the sun only smiled once upon the scene, a thunderstorm commenced about 1 a.m. on the 29th May, and gathering force as the morning wore on it developed into a titanic war of the elements. The rain came down in ever increasing volume, until by noon roaring torrents of water raced down the steep roads, forcing up the great

granite drains, tearing masses of the concrete surface off the roads, and bearing the *debris* on its foaming course to the streets on the level below. Meantime a large landslip, high on the mountain side, thundered down a mass of earth and boulders on the Peak Tramway, destroying a hundred feet of the permanent way, breaking the steel cable, and carrying down portions of the rails and sleepers into the Service Reservoir below. Eight men engaged in the construction of some houses at the Peak were killed by the lightning striking the matshed in which they were gathered. Extensive landslips occurred in various parts, and a portion of the walls of a house in the course of erection on the Praya fell. Great damage was done to the Service Reservoir, and to the roads and drains, and the Tytarn conduit was broken in three places. At midnight another storm commenced and lasted till 5 a.m. on the 30th, surpassing if anything the previous one. The roads were again converted into rivers, the low levels inundated, several bridges carried away, the Upper Botanic Gardens devastated, and more lives lost, two men being drowned in their house before they could get out. The gas mains were broken, and the supply was cut off. For two days business was practically brought to a standstill. During thirty-six hours there fell some thirty-six inches of rain, and at times the fall was at the rate of three inches an hour. The damage to public works was estimated at \$112,743, and the destruction of property in the stores and godowns on the lower levels was considerable. For some time afterwards the colony had a very forlorn and unkempt appearance, but nearly all traces of the havoc wrought have now disappeared.

The hopes of the earlier settlers of Hongkong ran high, but if they could return and compare the colony now with what it was at its commencement they would be constrained to admit that its progress had exceeded their most sanguine anticipations. At the end of 1841 the population was estimated at 15,000; by 1864 it had risen to 124,850; at the last census, taken in 1881, it was 160,402; and it is believed that the census to be taken this year will give a total of over 200,000. The total public revenue amounts to nearly \$2,000,000, and the annual rateable value is \$3,667,000, while the tonnage returns show Hongkong to be the third port of the British Empire. It has also become the "financial focus of the Far East," with a long list of joint stock enterprises, whose operations extend far beyond the confines of the colony itself. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, which opened its doors on the 1st March, 1865, with a capital of \$5,000,000, has found

it necessary, in consequence of the increase of its business, to double that amount, and has besides a reserve fund of five millions and a half; its deposits and notes in circulation at the date of last report amounted to close upon one hundred million dollars, and its average dividend has been between 11 and 12 per cent. The Insurance Companies having their headquarters in the colony rank amongst the first and most stable of the world. The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, whose capital amounts to a million and a half, has three extensive establishments, the number of graving docks being five, of which the largest is 500 feet in length and 29 feet deep. The Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company has provided commodious wharves on the Kowloon side, with large godowns adjoining, offering every facility for the loading and discharge of ships. The sugar refining industry, started on a small scale some twenty-three years ago, has grown to large proportions, the China Sugar Refining Company possessing two extensive refineries, and the Taikoo Sugar Refining Company another. There are also a distillery, ice factory, rope factory, saw mills, brick and cement works, furniture factory, and several engineering works, and a paper factory is in course of erection. Among the industries pursued by the Chinese are glass blowing, opium boiling, vermilion and soy manufacture, tanning, dyeing, boatbuilding, and many others. The scarcity of land and the dearth of fuel have hitherto militated against the progress of the colony as a manufacturing centre, but with the reclamation now in progress and the further opening up of the island by roads, additional space will become available; while the exploitation of the immense coal deposits of Tonkin may be expected to supply cheap fuel. But whatever the future of manufacturing enterprise, the continued prosperity of the colony is assured by its unrivalled situation as the chief emporium of the foreign trade of the Far East.

Our tale is ended. But one word remains. Englishmen may well be proud of this little Ultima Thule standing monumental in this Eastern Sea, one of the scattered links of the vast chain of empire with which British enterprise has girdled the globe. But the pride is unalloyed with selfishness. To all races they give a cordial welcome, and the trader from every clime here finds freedom and a home. It is to this fact that no small measure of Hongkong's prosperity is due. Long may that freedom, political and commercial, endure, to furnish an example and a lesson to other States, alike by the harmony that dwells among its cosmopolitan population and the ever-increasing growth of its magnificent trade.

THE JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS.

The opening day of the Colony's Jubilee commenced on the 21st January, and it may be truly said that the promise thus opened of the celebration was worthy in every way of the anniversary. The programme for that day consisted of the meeting of the Councils to send a congratulatory address, the service in St. John's Cathedral, and the public ball in the City Hall, and each of these functions was largely attended and the proceedings followed with the greatest interest. The harbour was gay with bunting. All the men-of-war dressed ship, and most of the merchant steamers were similarly decorated, and flew the red ensign at the main. The committee who have been entrusted with the carrying out of the comprehensive programme which celebrates the anniversary have apparently thrown their whole heart into the work, and judging by the first day's functions, the celebration should be, if carried out in the same spirit in its entirety and with the same good fortune, a success, as we have said, in every way worthy of the important event which the proceedings are inaugurated to honour.

The Committee consists of the following gentlemen:—Sir James Russell, C.M.G. (Chairman), Hon. S. Brown, Hon. W. M. Deane, C.M.G., Hon. Ho Kai, Hon. J. J. Keswick, Hon. N. G. Mitchell-Innes, Hon. P. Ryrie, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. E. J. Lockroyd, Hon. H. Stewart Lockhart, Dr. P. B. C. Ayres, Messrs. A. K. Travers, C. Ford, A. G. Romano, F. Gomes, A. B. Johnson, R. K. Leigh, W. H. Percival, J. B. Coughtrie, E. L. Woodin, H. L. Dalrymple, G. C. Cox, G. Murray Bain, C. S. Sharp, A. McConachie, H. W. Dick, J. Stern, C. F. Rowband, E. W. Rutter, F. Dodwell, Lieutenant-Colonel Jerrard, Lieutenant Anson, R.N., Messrs. E. R. Belilios, G. de Champeaux, H. Crawford, T. E. Davies, V. Deacon, P. Dhalla, N. J. Ede, M. D. Ezekiel, W. H. Forbes, J. J. Francis, Q. C., D. Gillies, L. Glenat, C. D. Harman, Ho Amei, C. J. Holliday, H. Hoppius, J. D. Humphreys, T. Jackson, Li Shing, Lo Hock Ping, E. Mackintosh, H. N. Mehta, S. C. Michaelsen, H. N. Vody, L. Poesnecker, Poon Pong, W. H. Ray, Capt. Rumsey, D. R. Sassoon, G. Sharp, J. Y. V. Vernon, G. Wieler, Wei Yuk, Wong

Shing,—H. E. Wodehouse, C.M.G., (Hon. Secretary); Hon. C. P. Chater, (Hon. Treasurer.)

THE MEETING OF THE COUNCILS.

The first event of the day was the meeting of the members of the Executive and Legislative Councils. At this function, which was attended by a number of residents, there were present:—H.E. the Governor (Sir William des Vœux K.C.M.G.), H.E. Major-General Digby Barker, C.B., Hon. F. Fleming, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary; Hon. W. M. Goodman, Attorney General; Hon. S. Brown, Surveyor General; Hon. W. M. Deane, C.M.G., Captain Superintendent of Police; Hon. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart, Registrar General; Hon. N. G. Mitchell-Innes, Colonial Treasurer; Hon. C. P. Chater, Hon. J. J. Keswick, Hon. T. H. Whitehead, Hon. Ho Kai.

At half-past nine precisely the salute from the body of Sikh policemen drawn up in the vestibule, under the command of Chief Inspector Cradock, announced the arrival of His Excellency the Governor.

His EXCELLENCY, having taken his place, said—Your Excellency, hon. gentlemen of the Executive and Legislative Councils, this being the first occasion of my appearing in public since my return to the Colony, I feel that I cannot lose the opportunity of expressing the great pleasure I have had in observing, that you, and I think the whole community, have shared in the high appreciation which I have felt, for the manner in which the affairs of the Government have been administered during my absence. I cannot also allow the opportunity to pass of expressing how deeply I feel the reception, the very warm reception, I am told in many respects the unprecedentedly warm reception, which was given to me by yourselves, and the whole of this community on my return (Applause.) I feel so deeply on this subject that but for a reluctance to intrude personal matters on an occasion of this kind of public rejoicing, I could hardly refrain from saying more. As it is I proceed at once to the object of the meeting to-day. This is, as you are aware, the anniversary, the fiftieth anniversary of the cession of the Colony, and in connection with this event, before proceeding any further, I think it will be well to make public a congratulatory telegram which I have received from the Municipality of Shanghai. The telegram reads—

"TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF
"HONGKONG.

"Shanghai Municipality congratulates Hong-

kong on the celebration of its Jubilee and sends hearty wishes for continued prosperity of the Colony.

(Signed) "J. MACGREGOR,
Chairman of the Municipal Council."

(Applause.) I am sure that you, gentlemen, and the whole community would wish me to acknowledge that telegram and reciprocate most heartily the sentiments therein expressed. I take it from your silence that you consent that I should do so. The telegram has only just been received, but I do not doubt that you can trust me to express the feelings of the community to the best of my ability. The immediate object of the meeting to-day is, as you are aware, the passing of a congratulatory address to Her Majesty. When it was intimated by the committee of all nationalities appointed to make arrangements for the Jubilee, that it was desired that such an address should be sent to Her Majesty, I had hoped that they would have forwarded to me a draft of their wishes and of the sentiments they desired to express, but this was not done, and I was led to presume that they expected me to undertake the duty. I have therefore undertaken the task myself, and I am bound to say that owing to the pressure of business following so soon after my arrival, aggravated as it has been by a unfortunate attack of illness, I have found this task very difficult, and I can only wish it had fallen to abler hands. Such as it is I have to offer it for your acceptance, and I will now read it to you:—

"TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

"Assembled at Victoria on Wednesday, 21st January, 1891, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the cession of the Colony, we, the Governor and the Executive and Legislative Councils of Hongkong, humbly approach your Majesty with renewed expression of our loyalty and devotion.

"The people of the Colony, for the most part your Majesty's subjects, join unanimously in grateful recognition of the wise policy of your Majesty's Government which has granted the same rights and equal justice to all the numerous races of which they are composed; and they recognize as largely owing to the wisdom of your Majesty's constitutional rule, the conditions under which, within a half century entirely comprised within your Majesty's reign, a barren inhospitable island has become the civilised centre of an enormous trade, the home of a large and prosperous community, and an important outpost of your Majesty's Empire.

"On their behalf therefore as well as on our own, we fervently pray that God will long preserve the health of the Sovereign whose reign has been fraught with so many blessings, while we at the same time rejoice that for succeeding generations the name of your Majesty, attached to this city, will ever serve to recall the memory of your Majesty's life and example.

"Signed on behalf of the Executive and Leg-

islative Councils, with which is associated a Committee specially appointed for the occasion and representative of all present nationalities.

"G. WILLIAM DES VŒUX,
"Governor."

It is now for you, gentlemen, to say whether this is your wish and I propose that this address be forwarded to Her Majesty.

Major-General BARKER seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—There being no dissent I may take it that the address is passed unanimously. The proceedings then terminated.

HER MAJESTY'S REPLY TO THE TELEGRAM.

The following telegrams were subsequently published in a *Gazette* extraordinary:—

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES
TO THE GOVERNOR, HONGKONG.

"I congratulate Colony on the occasion of Jubilee and cordially wish long continued prosperity.

"KNUTSFORD."

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES
TO GOVERNOR, HONGKONG.

"21st January.

"In answer to your telegram of to-day, Her Majesty the Queen is much pleased by this expression of loyalty and devotion, and sincerely trusts that the signal prosperity now enjoyed by Hongkong may continue and increase."

DIVINE SERVICE AT ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.

After the Council meeting His Excellency the Governor, attended by the members of Council, proceeded to the special service at St. John's Cathedral. The road was lined with police, and an escort of mounted troopers was in attendance. At the entrance to the Cathedral close His Excellency was received by a guard of honour of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and the path leading to the west entrance was lined by the members of the Volunteer Artillery. At the porch His Excellency was received by the members of the Jubilee Committee, and a procession was then formed in the following order:—

Members of the Choir and the Clergy.

Members of the Jubilee Committee.

Members of Legislative and Executive Councils.

His Excellency the Governor and Private Secretary and Aide-de-Camp.

Officers and men of the Hongkong Volunteers.

A detachment of forty men from the Hongkong Police.

During the procession a voluntary was played by Mr. C. F. A. Sangster.

The Cathedral had been handsomely decorated for the occasion. At each side of the east window hung the Royal Standard, over the west door was a trophy composed of Union Jacks and

White Ensigns, and flags were hung at frequent intervals from the clerestory, the general effect being heightened by a tasteful arrangement of ferns and pot plants about the chancel steps. Seats were reserved in the chancel for His Excellency the Governor and Council: His Excellency the Major-General Commanding and Staff; Commodore Church, R.N., and Staff; His Hon. Mr. Fielding Clarke; Mr. J. McLeavy Brown, Commissioner of Chinese Customs; His Hon. Sir J. Russell, C.M.G.; and the Members of the Jubilee Committee. The commandant, officers, and men of the Volunteers were accommodated with seats in the north transept, and seats were also reserved for forty members of the Police Force. The Cathedral was thronged in every part, many who attended being unable to obtain seats.

The service opened with the National Anthem, sung by the whole congregation, after which followed a selection from the order of morning prayer. The service was intoned by the Rev. H. E. Taverner, Acting Colonial Chaplain, the Right Rev. Bishop Burdon pronouncing the absolution, and the Rev. D. Hamilton reading the lesson. The following special prayer was offered by the Bishop:—

“O Lord, Creator of men and Governor among the nations. Who apportionest to mankind their lot and givest the kingdom to whomsoever Thou wilt; we now desire to render unto Thee our united thanks and praise for Thy goodness vouchsafed to us in this Island since it became a part of the British Empire. Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy Name be all the glory for the large amount of success and prosperity enjoyed by this Colony during the space of fifty years. It is Thou alone, O Lord God, Who givest peace in the land and power to get wealth. Help us to remember that our position on the borders of the great Empire of China, and the prosperity that has marked the history of this place, entail corresponding duties and responsibilities in regard of the large numbers of Chinese who have come to live under our rule. Forgive us wherein we have as a community and as individuals neglected those duties; and grant us grace so to use our superior knowledge and faith that our influence here may be a blessing and not a curse.

“Bless, we beseech Thee, our beloved Sovereign the Queen, and all that are put in authority under her, especially Thy servant the Governor of this colony and the members of the Legislative Council. Help them to rule as in Thy sight, and bless all their consultations to the advancement of Thy glory and the welfare of the people.

“Blessed be Thou, O Lord, the God of all the families on the face of the earth. Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the earth is Thine; Thine

is the Kingdom, O Lord, and Thou art exalted as head above all. Both riches and honour come of Thee, and Thou rulest over all; and in Thine hand is power and might; and in Thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all. Now, therefore, our God, we thank Thee, and praise Thy glorious Name.

“Accept this our thanksgiving and our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

The anthem was “Let all men praise the Lord,” from Mendelssohn’s Cantata Hymn of Praise.

An address was delivered by the BISHOP, who spoke as follows:—It is too late now even to ask the question whether England was right or wrong in taking possession of this island fifty years ago. Whatever may be said of the morality of those old wars, we have a right to claim that we have more than justified the act by returning to China something vastly more valuable than we took. We took a treeless, barren rock, the abode of a few hundreds, or at most of a few thousands of Chinese fishermen, ready on occasion to exchange their peaceable occupation for piracy, and we have long since made it a security of peace with China and a profitable home for tens of thousands—at the present moment two hundred thousand—of Chinese who have been attracted hither by the abundant means of obtaining a livelihood and even wealth under the security of a just and stable Government. We have illustrated at China’s own doors, without the aid of the Chinese classics, the fabled time of their early heroes—Emperors when the people came of their own accord to settle under their rule! By our works we have provided employment for hosts of China’s poor who could at best but have eked out a miserable existence in their own land or might have perished in the frequent floods and famines to which China is unhappily subject. We have by our educational institutions, Government and private, given an impetus to, if we were not the first to introduce, a desire for something more than the study of the Chinese classics. We have thus awoke something like new hopes in the heart of this old country while we have at the same time been a means of physical benefit to vast numbers of its population. In one of the early debates in the House of Lords with reference to our occupation of Hongkong one speaker pointed out—I forget the words, but this was their substance—that, by raising a sort of English town on the side of this mountain island, we should by our roads, our drainage and our houses be presenting a model for imitation by the Chinese in their own land. But China’s genius, for the present at least, does not lie in road-making or drain-making, or even in seeing the necessity for providing light and air in their dwellings; and hence the aspiration expressed by the noble Lord has thus far not been

realized. But he was on the right tack nevertheless when he suggested that a bit of English civilization should be planted here which might provide lessons for the Chinese to be learned in due time. There are parts of that civilization, not actually physical, and yet leading to physical benefit, which it would have been well if we had introduced from the commencement, and which it is not too late to introduce even yet. One of the most prominent of these, more noticeable in England by foreigners than elsewhere, is the English Sunday rest. There can be no doubt of the benefit of it to our own race. We have only to look at the Chinese to see the evil of the utter lack of it. Strong and patient in labour as the Chinese are, they have neither the healthy mental nor physical tone of our own people. Other causes are of course at work, but this life of unrelenting toil, so far as the labouring classes are concerned, has set its mark on their faces and their minds. Should we in this Christian colony, where the Chinese as a rule are in far happier circumstances than in their own country, allow the same unrelenting toil to continue? Is there no possible way out of the difficulty? I cannot and will not believe it. China is not a country much given to imitation, but there is no telling what effect would have been produced if from the first the Sunday rest had been established here for all ashore and afloat. It would at all events have been a striking proof to the Chinese from Canton to Peking that we care for something else besides buying and selling, and it would probably have had more effect on the nation than all our public works put together. The Chinese here who are released from work on the Sunday evidently enjoy the rest, and there must be many among them who do lose some cents over it. Amid all the wisdom and charity of this community some means might be devised by which this essential feature of English civilization could be established here, for the good of many of our own people as well as for that of the Chinese labourers. Union of all will do it, and by doing it we shall be setting an example of English civilization that will tell for good on far more than those immediately affected. Jubilees come and go, leaving behind them the lesson for all—"No man liveth to himself." Our Jubilee would be no cause of rejoicing, if it contained no record of good work done. All life's duties, honestly attempted, some good actually accomplished, won though it may be out of our very mistakes and failures—this must be our record. High principles and aims, right thinking and right doing—this must be the character of the life we are to live, not for self but for others. Across the wide reach of nearly five and thirty years I seem often to hear the echo of Lord Elgin's words, when he was addressing the then merchants of Shanghai, reminding them that the responsibility of those who "have a faith that reaches to Heaven" is vastly higher

than that of those "whose faith does not rise higher than the earth." In our life, commercial, social, personal, with such a faith as ours, we all can, if we will, successfully fight life's battles, do life's duties, and at length win life's Crown in an Eternal Jubilee.

The closing hymn was "Praise the Lord! ye heavens, adore Him," sung to the tune of the Austrian National Anthem. The benediction was pronounced by the Bishop.

The clergy who took part in the procession were the Right Rev. Bishop Burdon, Rev. H. E. Taverner, Rev. D. Hamilton, Rev. J. B. Ost, Rev. A. G. Goldsmith, Rev. Fong Yat San, Rev. G. H. Bondfield (Union Church), and Pastor Hartmann, of the Berlin Foundling House.

DIVINE SERVICE AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL.

At the Roman Catholic Cathedral the service consisted of a solemn *Te Deum*, Bishop Raimondi officiating, assisted by two priests and several acolytes. The High Altar was beautifully dressed, with a number of tapers burning; candles were also lit throughout the church. The most holy sacrament was brought out in exposition, and Monsignor Bishop Raimondi having incensed the host and the altar, led the *Te Deum Laudamus*, which was taken up and followed by the choir and the fathers from the Missions Etrangères, the Spanish Procuration, and Italian Mission in alternate verses. At the end of the *Te Deum* the choir sang the *Tantum Ergo* and the *Genitori*, which were followed by the benediction. The service was brought to a close by the Choir singing "God save the Queen," accompanied by the organ and orchestra, all present standing. There were present the Hon. Francis Fleming, C.M.G., Mr. A. G. Romano, Consul-General for Portugal and Brazil, Mr. G. Gueyraud, Consul for France, Dr. M. R. Escudero, Acting Consul for Spain, Mr. E. Perera, Vice-Consul for Spain at Amoy, Mr. A. J. Leach, Dr. Hartigan, the Christian Brothers with their pupils, the Sisters of the Italian Convent with some hundreds of girls, and a large congregation of Portuguese and Chinese.

THE PARSEE CELEBRATION.

In response to the invitation of the Trustees of the Parsee Charity Fund, most of the members of the Parsee community attended the special prayer and thanksgiving ceremony which took place on the 21st January in celebration of the Jubilee of Hongkong, at the Parsee Club House, Shelley Street. The building was neatly decorated for the occasion with festoons of evergreens and flowers. Mr. H. N. Mody, the worthy Chairman of the Trustees, was prevented from attending owing to indisposition, but he communicated to the meeting through

Mr. N. P. Dhalla, the Secretary, that he sincerely and fully participated in the sentiments of gratitude, loyalty, reverence, and praise inspired by the auspicious occasion. Thanks and praise were offered to the Almighty for His infinite goodness in vouchsafing to this colony the invaluable blessings of peace, plenty, prosperity, and success; fervent prayers were offered to Him to guard and protect the colony and promote its welfare and prosperity for ever; also that He would be pleased to bestow upon our illustrious Sovereign many more years of a happy, glorious, and prosperous reign, and to crown the fulness of her days with His divine blessing. Before the meeting closed Mr. Dhalla, the Secretary, on behalf of the trustees, requested those present to give donations to the "Victoria Jubilee Parsee Charity Fund," which was inaugurated in June, 1887, to commemorate the Jubilee of our most Gracious Queen, and the appeal was readily responded to.

THE ROYAL SALUTE.

At noon a Royal salute of fifty guns was fired by the men-of-war in the Harbour, the Shore Battery, and the Hongkong Volunteer Artillery.

THE PUBLIC BALL.

In the evening a public ball was held at the City Hall, which was one of the most largely attended balls ever seen in Hongkong. The City Hall had been most appropriately decorated for the occasion, and the Committee in whose hands this important part of the work was placed can be most heartily congratulated not only on the thoroughness with which they carried out their work but also on the originality of design they displayed. Of late years, the decorations of the various rooms at the balls have been very much a repetition of their predecessors, but this certainly cannot be said on the present occasion, when the decorations of every part of the building were totally unlike anything that has appeared before.

Perhaps the most notable feature was, throughout the various rooms, the sumptuous description of the decorations, everything being done on the most lavish scale but at the same time in the most perfect taste. The building outside was prettily decorated with variegated Japanese lanterns, the central hall being illuminated in gigantic characters with the word "Jubilee," the letters being formed of coloured gas globes. The fountain in front of the City Hall was also illuminated by means of coloured lanterns. The grand staircase presented an appearance as pretty as effective. The pillars were profusely draped with flags in the usual manner, the balustrades were almost hidden with ferns, while the arrangement on the stone rail of boxes of flowers, and an immense mirror at the top, throwing up the

whole, presented a most striking appearance. Another novelty and a most appropriate idea was the draping of the walls of the staircase with hong flags kindly lent by the leading firms of the colony. At the top of the staircase, the vestibule was made gay with different arrangements in bannets. The decorations of St. George's Hall and St. Andrew's Hall were as distinct as well-arranged, St. George's Hall being completely British in character throughout, while St. Andrew's Hall was decorated in purely 'Chinese style. In St. George's Hall, the decoration partook largely of what may be called the naval style. By an arrangement of red, white and blue material, the doors were framed in a description of twisted cording. Over each door were arranged crossed ensigns, while above each window were placed alternately blue and crimson banners, bearing in either silver or gold letters the names of the various administrators who have held office in Hongkong. At either end of the room appeared two large circular paintings, the one of Hongkong in 1841, the other of Hongkong in 1891. St. Andrew's Hall, as already mentioned, was decorated in purely Chinese style, even the seats being of Chinese manufacture. With the very elaborate materials which Chinese decoration permits, the committee had made St. Andrew's Hall assume an unwontedly gay appearance. Over each portal were large Chinese presentation umbrellas, rich in colour and elaborate in texture and design. At various intervals round the wall were long square lanterns, bearing Chinese devices, while the whole of the upper part of the room was covered in long silk banners bearing Chinese mottoes. Supper was served as usual in the Theatre, the circle and floor both being utilised. Pot plants in profusion and flags innumerable formed the chief decoration here. The ante-room adjoining St. George's Hall was tastily decorated by banners and huge and gaily coloured fans.

Shortly after nine o'clock H. E. the Governor and Lady des Vœux arrived and were received by the members of the Jubilee Committee and escorted to St. George's Hall, where His Excellency opened the ball by dancing the first quadrille with Mrs. Mitchell-Innes. The ball having been thus commenced dancing was continued with great spirit for a number of hours, the music being supplied by the Band of H.M.S. *Imperieuse*.

The dance programme was as follows:—

Quadrille	Knight of the Thistle.
Waltz	Ambassadors.
Waltz	Little Sailors.
Polka	P. & O.
Lancers	Vivacité.
Waltz	Donan Wellen.
Waltz	Frauenliebe.
Highland Schottische	
Lancers	The Red Hussar.

SUPPER DANCES.

Waltz	Schats.
Waltz	Dilars.

Waltz	Golden Myrtles.
Polka	Comme il Fant.
Waltz	The Fan.
Lancers	La Fille du Tambour Major.
Waltz	Manola.
Waltz	Les Lointains.
Waltz	Sudbilder.

About midnight a well-appointed supper was served in the Theatre, the band of the A. & S. Highlanders playing a selection of music during the repast.

His Excellency the Governor, who was to have responded to the toast of "Prosperity to the Colony," was unfortunately compelled to leave at an earlier period owing to indisposition.

Sir JAMES RUSSELL in proposing the first toast, "The Queen," which was drunk with musical honours, said that in commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Colony's existence he was sure the toast of Her Majesty the Queen would be received with enthusiasm as it is in all civilised States.

In proposing the second toast, "The Health of the Governor and the Prosperity of the Colony,"

Sir JAMES RUSSELL said—Ladies and gentlemen, I have only one other toast to propose and I do not intend to detain you very long, because I am quite sure the ladies are anxious to resume dancing, at least I was informed so by one of them. On occasions of this kind, I feel certain people come to dance, not to hear long speeches. The toast I have to propose is "The Health of H.E. the Governor and Prosperity to the Colony of Hongkong." I regret very much, and I am sure you all regret, that His Excellency, in consequence of ill-health, has been obliged to leave and cannot respond to this toast. He expected to be able to do so, and he asked me to assure you that he very much regretted having to go away and that he hoped to be able to return to supper. Unfortunately he has not been able to do so, and General Barker has kindly consented to reply to the toast on behalf of His Excellency. The first part of the toast does not require much commendation from me. You have known His Excellency for three years, and we all know the respect and esteem in which he is held in the Colony, which was well shown by the reception you gave him on his return the other day. We all know him as a thoroughly straightforward, honest Governor and as one who possesses the strictest sense of duty and does what he believes to be right because it is right. I need say nothing further of His Excellency the Governor, and I will now refer briefly to the progress of the Colony. Fifty years ago we all know from report that this Colony was a small fishing village of some five thousand inhabitants; now it is a city with churches, clubs, hospitals, docks, and institutions of all kinds possessed by civilised countries. In commercial prosperity, should the Colony advance at the same rate during the next fifty years that it has done during the past fifty years,

it will become one of the most important places in the British Empire, although the most distant outpost of that Empire. Ladies and gentlemen, I will not detain you longer, but will now ask you to drink the health of His Excellency the Governor and the prosperity of the Colony. (Loud applause.)

Three hearty cheers were given for the Governor and one more for Lady Des Vœux.

Major-General BARKER, in responding, said—Ladies and gentlemen, I have to ask your indulgence this evening. It was only within the last half hour that I was asked to take the place of the Governor and reply to the toast which has just been proposed, because of his absence, which we all most deeply regret. I think I am one of the most recent residents in this colony. I am comparatively a stranger, and when I look around me and see so many who have spent the greater portion of their lives in this colony I feel they are far better able to describe the details and incidents of the prosperity of the colony than I can, and I feel some diffidence in taking on myself to reply to the toast. However, I have been asked to do so, and I shall do so to the best of my ability. Fortunately in this case the toast deals with two subjects upon both of which there is the most perfect unanimity of opinion in this assembly—the health of the Governor and the prosperity of the colony. As to the health of the Governor, every one in this room must, I am sure, be extremely anxious with regard to it. He desired most keenly to come amongst us here and take part in the Jubilee of the colony, and I fear he has overtaxed his strength. I can only say that I hope the cheers that were raised here just now for him may reach him at Government House. (Applause.) With regard to the prosperity of the colony, of which Sir James Russell has spoken, I have just been looking at the picture of the colony in 1841, which has been afforded a place in the ball room, and I think the best way to realise the progress that the colony has made during the last fifty years is to compare that picture with what we see around us to-day. The institutions, the docks, the palatial residences are all evidences of the great prosperity of the colony, and I am sure we all join in the hope expressed by Sir James Russell, that the picture painted fifty years hence may show as great an improvement and increase of prosperity in this colony as the picture of to-day shows on that of fifty years ago. (Applause.) Ladies and gentlemen, I, a humble individual, have on behalf of His Excellency the Governor to once more thank you for the way in which you have received this toast.

Dancing was then resumed and kept up for some time.

The gentlemen in charge of the various arrangements were as follows;—Chairman—Sir James Russell; Stewards—the Jubilee Committee; Hon. Secretary—Hon. H. E. Wodehouse,

C.M.G.; Hon. Treasurer—Hon. C. P. Chater; Decoration Committee—Hon. J. H. Stewart. Lockhart, Capt. Rumsey, R.N., Lieut. Cooper Key, R.N., Capt. Henderson, A. & S H., Capt. Clayton, Messrs. C. Ford, J. McCallum, and F. W. Cross; Supper—Capt. G. C. Anderson; Cloak and Card Room—Mr. R. Lyall.

THE REVIEW.

On the afternoon of the 22nd January a review of the Naval and Land Forces took place in Happy Valley. From one o'clock the day was a general holiday, and the review attracted an immense concourse. Although it was not to commence until half-past three, a steady stream of jinrickshas set in before two o'clock, and later in the afternoon it was almost impossible to obtain either a jinricksha or a chair, although many unlicensed vehicles were plying. The weather was bright and genial and all that could be desired for the occasion.

The men taking part in the review numbered in all about 2,200, and were formed in line in the following order, the line extending the full length of the Racecourse:—

A Field Battery, Royal Navy.

The Hongkong Volunteer Artillery.

A Battalion of Seamen of the Royal Navy.

A Battalion of Royal Marines.

The 1st Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

A Battalion formed of { The Royal Artillery.
The Royal Engineers.
The Asiatic Artillery.

The Field Battery of Asiatic Artillery.

At twenty minutes past three His Excellency Major-General Barker arrived and was received with a general salute. The staff officers present were:—Colonel Jerrard, D.A.A.G.A.; Colonel Chauncey, Chief Paymaster; Lieut. Colonel Mulcahy, A.C.G.O.; Deputy Surgeon General Patterson; Capt. Clavton, D.A.A.G.B.; and Lieut. Barker, A.D.C. At half-past three His Excellency the Governor arrived in state, accompanied by Captain Milner, A.D.C., and Mr. F. H. May, Private Secretary, and with a guard of mounted troops. After the general salute, the Governor and General inspected the line. The ceremony of trooping the colours was then gone through by the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, after which a *feu-d-jote* was fired, each of the three volleys being preceded by seven guns from the batteries on right and left alternately. A royal salute was then given, followed by three cheers for the Queen, led by General Barker. The force then marched past, first in column, then by battalions in mass of quarter column, and finally with the guns in line of batteries and the battalions in line of quarter columns. The music for the march past was played by the combined bands of the Highlanders and the *Imperieuse*, the pipers playing while the High-

landers passed the saluting point. The force then reformed on the original base and advanced in review order and saluted. This concluded the review. The movements were all executed with great steadiness and precision, and the marching of the seamen was much admired. A feature that attracted some attention was Dr. Cantlie's Ambulance Corps, composed of students at the College of Medicine for Chinese, who have rather a showy uniform.

The arrangements on the ground were excellent, a large force of police keeping the ground clear, which was not a very difficult thing, since the large space allowed every one to get a good point of view without crowding. Chairs were reserved by the saluting point for ladies. Amongst the visitors was Admiral Ting, of the Chinese Navy, who wore a yellow robe.

THE ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The Jubilee Athletic Sports which were held on the 23rd January were very largely attended, and the rather lengthy programme was most successfully carried through. The competitors for the most part consisted of the naval and military element, and rather large fields were the order of the day. His Excellency the Governor arrived on the ground about three o'clock and remained to the end of the programme. During the afternoon the band of the A. & S. Highlanders was in attendance and played a well-selected programme.

The gentlemen who officiated in carrying out the programme were:—Judges—Lieut. Young R.E., Mr. C. H. Thompson; Clerks of the Course—Captain D. Henderson, Lieut. A. H. Anson, R.N.; Starter—J. T. H. Sample; Referee—Commander H. Festing, R.N.; Timekeeper—Mr. John Grant; Hon. Secretary—Mr. R. K. Leigh.

Appended are the results of the various events:—
PUTTING THE SHOT.—Open to all. Three tries.
16 lbs., 7 feet run, no follow; 1st prize \$10;
2nd prize \$5

D. Sinclair (38ft. 4in.) 1

J. Hannah (36ft. 8in.) 2

100 YARDS.—Open to the Navy; 1st prize \$10;
2nd prize \$5.

Ten entries.

G. Godsew 1

T. Davis 2

Time, 12½ secs.

100 YARDS.—Open to the Military. 1st prize \$10, 2nd prize \$5.

Six entries

A. F. Steele 1

F. Bailey 2

Time, 11 secs.

100 YARDS.—Open to all Civilians. 1st prize \$10; 2nd prize \$5.

Five entries.

A. Watson 1

S. G. Grainger 2

Time, 11 3-5ths secs.

QUARTER MILE. —Open to the Navy. 1st prize \$10; 2nd prize \$5. Eleven entries. G. Godsew 1 J. Daniel 2 Time, 57½ secs.	40 years of age. First prize, \$15; second prize, \$5. Eight entries. B. Taylor 1 F. Blanchard 2 Time, 15 secs.
QUARTER MILE. —Open to the Military. 1st prize \$10; 2nd prize \$5. Eight entries. A. E. Steele 1 W. Watson 2 Time, 58 secs.	120 YARDS HURDLE RACE. —Open to all. 10 Flights. First prize \$15; second prize \$5. Eight entries. J. Glynn 1 R. James 2 Time, 23 secs.
QUARTER MILE. —Open to all Civilians. 1st prize \$10; 2nd prize \$5. Six entries. L. Rose 1 A. Watson 2 Time, 52 secs.	HORNPIPE DANCE. —Open to all. First prize \$15; second prize \$5. H. Mitchell 1 R. McColvin 2
HIGH JUMP. —Open to all. 1st prize \$10; 2nd prize \$5. Four entries. F. Mitchell (4ft. 11in.) 1 H. McWhirter (4ft. 10in.) 2	HIGHLAND FLING. —Open to all. First prize \$15; second prize \$5. Stewart, A. & S. H. 1 McLaren, P.C. 2
HALF MILE. —Open to the Navy. 1st prize \$10; 2nd prize \$5. Nine entries. T. Davies 1 G. Godsew 2 Time, 2 min. 20 secs.	QUARTER MILE CHAMPIONS. —Open to firsts and seconds in the quarter mile. First prize \$15; second prize \$5. Three entries. W. Watson 1 G. Godsew 2 Time, 58½ secs.
ONE MILE BICYCLE RACE. —Open to all. First prize, cup; second prize, cup. Entries—G. P. Lammert, F. Lammert, J. Kew, Jackson W. Jackson 1 G. P. Lammert, 2 Time, 5 mins. 2 secs.	TUG-OF-WAR, FINAL. —Open to the two winning teams. Prizes for winning team, \$5 each. Police v. Navy. Police 1
ONE MILE FLAT RACE. —Open to all; first prize, \$20; second prize, \$10. Eight entries. Gunda Singh, 1 T. Davis, 2 Time, 5 mins. 1 sec.	HALF MILE CHAMPIONS. —Open to firsts and seconds in the half mile. First prize, \$15; Second prize, \$5. Three entries. T. Davis 1 H. Hudson 2 Time, 2 mins. 25 secs.
TUG OF WAR. —1st Heat. Navy v. Military. 10 men a side. All to be pulled over. No holes to be dug in the ground before pulling. No sitting down. To be decided by one pull. Navy 1	SACK RACE. —100 Yards; open to all. First prize, \$10; second prize, \$5. Twenty entries. A. May 1 J. Wooldridge 2
TUG OF WAR. —2nd Heat. Navy v. Police; same conditions as above. Owing to no civilians putting in for this event, the Police pulled against a scratch naval team. Police 1	BALL AT EAST POINT. A memorable social event, though purely unofficial, was the ball given on Friday night, the 23rd January, by the Hon. J. J. Keswick and Mrs. Keswick at their residence, East Point. The hospitable mansion flashed its welcome to the guests from afar, for it was outlined against the darkness in such glowing colours as at first to suggest a fire. On nearer approach it was seen that the house was brilliantly illuminated with red lanterns and along the front the following legend was most effectively displayed in blue:—
100 YARDS CHAMPIONS. —Open to firsts and seconds in the 100 yards. First prize \$15; second prize \$5. Five entries. A. E. Steele 1 F. Bailey 2 Time 11¼ secs.	"1841—Ewo—1891." The grounds were converted into a veritable fairy land by the lavish use of Japanese lanterns and glass lights, the verandahs were
120 YARDS VETERANS' RACE. —Open to all over	

matted in and most tastefully draped with flags, lighted, and decorated. Inside every arrangement possible for the comfort of the numerous guests had been made, the drawing-rooms turned out, the floors on which had been waxed to perfection, and dancing went on merrily to the strains of the Band of the *Impériouse*. His Excellency the Governor, Sir William des Vœux, Major-General Barker, and Sir James Russell were among the large assembly gathered under the hospitable roof, where the Ewo traditions were most admirably sustained by Mr. and Mrs. Keswick, whose solicitude for the enjoyment of their guests left nothing wanting to minister to their pleasure. The ball was worthy of the occasion, and will certainly be remembered as one of the most enjoyable events of the Jubilee week.

CONCERT AT THE CLUB GERMANIA.

A very graceful addition to the Jubilee celebrations was made by the members of the Club Germania in the shape of a concert given on the 24th January. The Club had been richly and appropriately decorated for the occasion. The facade was hung with Japanese lanterns, and on entering the hall the hospitable "Willkommen" met the visitor's eye over the staircase. The walls were draped with flags and festooned with evergreens, and the figures 1841-1891 were prominent in several places. In the theatre festoons of evergreens were led from the roof to the walls, other festoons were carried round the windows, and the walls were hung with flags and shields. The invitations had been made as numerous as the resources of the Club would admit of, and included all the ladies of the British and Foreign community. His Excellency the Governor was unfortunately unable to be present in person, but was represented by His Excellency Major-General Digby Barker, who on entering was received with the National Anthem played by the String Band of H.M.S. *Impériouse*, which had been lent by Captain Poë and the Officers. The members of the Club were assisted by Mrs. Chas. J. Hirst, Miss L. Howard, and Mr. Chas. J. Hirst, and the programme was as follows:—

PART I.

- Overture "Rip van Winkle" Planquette.
By the Band.
Chorus { (a) "Schäfers Sonntagslied" C. Kreutzer.
{ (b) "Kärnthner Volkslied" T. Koschat.
German Liedertafel.
Conductor Herr C. Schwencke.
Bass Solo (Selection) "Lohengrin" Richard Wagner.
Herr H. Boner.
Duet.
{ (a) "Weissich Dich in Meiner Nähe" F. Abt. (Op. 79).
{ (b) "Sieh Luna's Silberschimmer" F. Campana.
Miss L. Howard, Mr. Chas. J. Hirst.
Piano Mrs. Chas. J. Hirst.
Song "The Last Watch" C. Pinsuti.
Herr Chas. Lammert.
Violin Solo ... "Romance" L. van Beethoven.
Herr G. von Wille.

PART II.

- Serenade "Les Mandolines" Desormes.
By the Band.
Chorus { (a) "Haidenroslein" ... Heinrich Werner.
{ (b) "Abschieds Ständchen" H. Willbarger.
German Liedertafel.
Conductor Herr C. Schwencke.
Solo "Tannhäuser" ... Richard Wagner.
Herr H. Boner.
Song "Ave Maria" Luigi Luzzi.
Miss L. Howard.
Piano Mrs. Chas. J. Hirst.
Bass Arie "Schweigen der Nacht" Conradin Kreutzer.
Captain—Mr. Chas. J. Hirst.
Chorus.—German Liedertafel.
Piano.—Mrs. Chas. J. Hirst.
Conductor Herr C. Schwencke.
"God save the Queen."
By the Audience.

MEMBERS OF THE "LIEDERTAFEL."

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| TENOR I. | BASS I. |
| Mr. E. Hagan | Mr. H. Ehmer |
| Mr. Chas. Lammert | Mr. J. Goosmann |
| Mr. Fritz Lammert | Mr. C. W. Longuet |
| Mr. H. Witte | Mr. C. Michelau |
| TENOR II. | BASS II. |
| Mr. L. Poesnecker | Mr. H. Boner |
| Mr. G. Atzenroth | Mr. M. Grote |
| Mr. John Meier | Mr. O. Gschwind |
| Mr. A. Schellhass | Mr. F. W. Koch |
| | Mr. M. March |

Conductor Mr. C. Schwencke.

As the National Anthem was being sung the curtain was raised and disclosed on the stage a charming *tableau vivant*, consisting of three young ladies representing England, Scotland, and Ireland gracefully posed in front of the bust of Her Majesty the Queen, which stood out from a mass of ferns and plants. The ladies composing the *tableau* were Miss Lammert, Mrs. Niedhart, and Miss L. Lammert. The picture took the audience by surprise and was received with enthusiastic applause, evoked both by its beauty and the gracefulness of the sentiment expressed. The whole entertainment was most efficiently carried out, and one of the pleasantest memories of the Jubilee celebrations will be this active participation of our German friends therein.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY AND THE JUBILEE.

The Hongkong Dispensary afforded a magnificent Jubilee show to large crowds during the three nights of the celebrations. The business of A. S. Watson & Co., Limited, having been established in 1841 it celebrated its Jubilee at the same time as the colony, and made illuminations on a lavish scale the principal feature of the celebration. "Established 1841" in large letters and figures formed of small coloured oil lamps formed the central device; at each end was a large crown in gas with the "V.R." and the figures "1841, 1891,"—and outside this another star of coloured lamps. The whole of the arches and cornices of the verandahs of the extensive premises were outlined with lamps of the same description, and the general effect was so attractive that Queen's Road at this point was for several hours

almost impassable owing to the dense throng of Chinese who assembled to enjoy the sight.

On the 24th January a dinner was given at the Hong. The whole of the staff and a number of guests were present, dinner being served in one of the large rooms of the new building, which had been decorated with banners and ferns for the occasion. The toast of the evening, "Continued prosperity to the Firm," was proposed in a neat speech by Mr. Mancell, and ably responded to by Mr. F. H. Talbot, the manager, and Mr. Chan A. Fook, manager of the Chinese department. Several other toasts were also drunk, that of the managing director, Mr. J. D. Humphreys, being received with the greatest enthusiasm. At the conclusion of dinner an adjournment was made to an adjoining room, where the more accomplished portion of the party by means of vocal and instrumental music made the hours pass with the greatest rapidity.

CRICKET MATCH.

UNITED SERVICES v. CIVILIANS.

Last but by no means least of the Jubilee festivities, the above match, played on the 23rd and 24th Jan., should be placed on record as one of the most interesting and pleasant matches that has ever taken place here. A glance at the names of those who played in it will show any one who follows cricket matters in Hongkong that it comprises nearly all the cricketing talent in the colony, Naval, Military, and Civil, and the energetic Hon. Sec. of the H.K.C.C. is to be congratulated upon having got together twenty-two such excellent exponents of England's noble game. Judging from the interest taken in the game from the first over on Friday until stumps were drawn on Saturday, we feel sure he may take it for granted that his efforts were heartily appreciated. Perhaps additional interest was centred in the match from a desire to see our Singapore heroes once again, as there is no doubt they took all our cricket enthusiasm to the Straits with them, although possibly it was not all brought back, "which the same we did not understand." The Services were without Blair, which is to be regretted, as with his assistance their eleven would probably be the strongest team they could muster. As it was they were a little weak in change bowling. The civilians' team could hardly be improved upon, being strong in every department of the game. The wicket was fast and true, although a trifle bumpy at times.

The civilians, winning the toss, elected to bat first, and shortly after two o'clock on Friday Darby and Smith started to the bowling of Campbell and Walter. Only 6 had been made when Smith was bowled by a yorker from Walter and had to retire in favour of Leach. We were glad to see the pet muscle and the knee behaving themselves, and thus enabling their respective owners to score without getting any-

body to run for them. Darby hit freely and looked like making a long score, when he was bowled off his pads for 13. E. W. Maitland filled the vacancy and some steady play followed. Dunn and Lewis were here put on instead of Walter and Campbell respectively, the former bringing about a change at once, Maitland spooning one up to long on, where it found a resting place in the hands of Lyne. Lowson followed and commenced opening out his shoulders in his usual style, runs coming apace between both batsmen; after rattling up 20 in a very short time, of which five were made from a jubilee hit right out of the ground on to the Barrack wall, the doctor had to go, a good catch by Lewis at mid-off dismissing him. G. S. Coxon, the next man, did not stay long, a "corkscrew" one from Dunn finding its way to his wickets. C. S. Barff followed and was smartly caught in the slips almost immediately. F. Maitland, his successor, indulged in some slopping and brought Walter on again, who clean bowled the last arrival for a useful if somewhat lucky 17. Stow followed and assisted his captain very materially; between them they brought the score up to 149, when Leach, who had been playing in his very best style throughout, in trying to hit a ball to leg, unfortunately played it on. His 69 was made by perfect cricket and deserved the applause which, needless to say, it received. S. Coxon joined Stow, but was out l.b.w. to Dunn for a single, and L. Barff, who brought up the rear, fell a victim to Garde's wicket keeping, leaving Stow to carry his bat for 13, which was made in most spirited fashion. The innings thus closed for 161. The fielding of the Services was good, although a tendency to return the ball hard and wildly to the wicket keeper cost them some runs. Garde deserves a word of praise for the capital manner in which he officiated behind the stumps.

The Services commenced their innings about 5 o'clock, sending in Boyle and Clarke to face Barff and Lowson. Both bowlers were on the spot and allowed no liberties, Clarke was in for eight overs without scoring a run when he was beaten by a good ball from Barff and made way for Campbell. Stumps were drawn at 5.30, Boyle and Campbell being not out.

The prospect of a close match and the certainty of good cricket brought down a great number of spectators during the afternoon of Saturday, the ladies' tent being particularly well attended, whilst the Pavilion was crowded with the lords of creation. The Band of the 1st A. & S. Highlanders contributed in no small degree to the pleasure of those at the ground.

Boyle and Campbell resumed to the bowling of E. W. Maitland and Leach, the two fast bowlers not being on the ground. In Maitland's second over the 91st man put one up in the slips, which was held by Stow. Major

Hannay, the newcomer, lost Boyle shortly after, who had played a most plucky innings of 32. Dunn partnered the Major, who, however, put a ball up to Lowson off Maitland, which was held, and so made room for Garde. Runs now came freely, and Dunn appeared to be settling down for his century. After making 22 he gave F. Maitland a hard chance, which was declined. However, fortunately for the Civilians, he was smartly caught in the slips by Leach only two balls afterwards. Lyne took his place and kept his wicket up while Garde added to the score. Tiffin and photography intervened. After the interval the Services could do little or nothing with the bowling of Maitland and Barff. Garde succumbed to a trimmer from Barff, his innings of 23 being made by some sterling good cricket. The innings closed for 127, b-ing 34 runs in arrears of the Civilians' total. Maitland and Barff bowled splendidly.

The second innings of the Civilians was commenced at 2.30, Smith and Darby opening to the attack of Steel and Walter. Smith, playing a good game and apparently getting well set, was given out l.e.r before when he had made 14, a decision in which the umpire may have erred. Leach filled the breach, but quickly lost Darby and also his successor. When Lowson became associated with his captain a most determined stand was made, Leach playing steadily but punishing every loose ball, while the Doctor did some most phenomenal hitting into the surrounding country. Several changes of bowling were made without avail. How Lowson scored may be judged by the fact that during his partnership with Leach he scored 67 runs out of 90. His career was brought to a close by a good catch in the deep field by Walter off Lewis. Leach was finely caught at the wicket by Garde for 4; he gave a chance early in the innings, but it was a fine display nevertheless. Stow was the only other man who did anything to speak of, his 18 being compiled by some hard clean hitting. The innings closed for 186. More photography, and with less than an hour to play the Services started their second innings. Thanks to some exceptionally good fielding the Services lost no less than 6 wickets for 28 runs before time was called, Smith and Darby bowling successfully.

The Civilians are thus to be congratulated on winning the match on the first innings by 24 runs.

Appended are the scores:—

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
T. S. Smith, b Walter	4	lbw, b Steel	14
S. L. Darby, b Walter	13	c Dunn, b Steel	8
A. J. Leach, b Dunn	69	c Garde, b Lewis	2
A. W. Maitland, c Lyne, b Dunn ..	11	c Clarke, b Steel	57
J. A. Lowson, c Lewis, b Dunn ..	20	c Walter, b Lewis	0
G. S. Coxon, b Dunn	2	lbw, b Lewis	0
C. S. Barff, c Dunn, b Campbell ..	2	c Steel, b Dunn	9
F. Maitland, b Walter	17	c Lyne, b Dunn	2
H. G. Skw, not out	18	c Lewis, run out	18
S. W. Coxon, lbw, b Dunn	1	c Campbell, b Steel ..	1
L. C. Barff, st. Garde, b Dunn ..	4	not out	1
Extras	2	Extras	16
	181		186

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Balls.	Runs.	Mds.	Wkts.	Wides.	N.B.
First Innings.					
F. H. Walter ..	100	3	6	—	—
A. J. Campbell ..	95	52	4	1	—
F. O. Lewis ...	30	20	—	—	—
Capt. Dunn ...	68	43	1	6	—
G. G. Boyle ...	20	13	—	—	—
Second Innings.					
F. H. Walter ...	45	23	1	—	—
Private Steel...	99	46	7	4	2
Capt. Dunn ...	75	37	4	2	—
A. J. Campbell ..	15	19	—	—	—
G. G. Boyle ...	15	17	—	—	—
F. O. Lewis ...	30	22	1	3	—
Capt. Carden...	10	6	—	2	—

UNITED SERVICES.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
G. G. Boyle, R.A., c Barff, b E.	33	b Darby	2
W. Maitland	—	—	—
Sergt. Clarke, 91st, b Barff	—	—	—
A. Campbell, 91st, c Stow, b E.	11	run out	2
W. Maitland	—	—	—
Capt. Carden, R.A., lbw, b Barff...	5	b Darby	3
Capt. Dunn, A.S.C., c Leach, b E.	—	—	—
W. Maitland	32	not out	3
R. B. Garde, R.N., b Barff	23	c Maitland b Smith ...	5
W. O. Lyne, R.N., b E. W. Maitland	5	c Lowson, b Darby ...	0
Pte. Steel, 91st, b E. W. Maitland	5	c L. Barff, b Smith ...	1
Major Hannay, 91st, c Lowson, b	—	—	—
E. W. Maitland	2	—	—
F. H. Walter, R.N., b Barff	3	—	—
F. O. Lewis, R.N., not out	3	not out	4
Extras	13	Extras	8
	137		28

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Balls.	Runs.	Mds.	Wkts.	Wides.	N.B.
Lowson	70	24	5	—	—
Barff	134	32	13	4	—
E. W. Maitland ..	115	46	11	6	1
Leach	20	12	1	—	—

SHOOTING MATCH.

The Hongkong Rifle Association held a competition for the Subscription Handicap Challenge Cup and Jubilee Range Spoons on the 24th January, which resulted in a win for Mr. E. Robinson with a score of 59 points, Mr. Robinson also taking the range spoon at 200 yards with 33 points, Mr. E. L. Woodin that for 300 yards with 26. The competition was further extended by a spoon for 500 and 600 yards each, with one for the best aggregate at the four ranges. The 500 yards spoon was won by Mr. C. Ford with 31 points, the 600 yards spoon by Lieut. Haswell, R.N., and the aggregate for the four ranges by Mr. E. Robinson. Appended are the ten best scores for the Cup:—

	200 yards.	300 Points yards.	handi-Total.
			capped.
Mr. E. Robinson	33	26 scratch	59
Mr. C. Ford	31	27 scratch	58
Mr. E. L. Woodin	30	26 scratch	56
Lieut. Haswell, R.N.	26	25	4.....55
Mr. F. W. Cross	24	24	7.....55
Colonel Jerrard	26	23	6.....55
Mr. A. Mann	26	24	4.....54
Lieut. Martin, R.N.	31	19	4.....54
Mr. J. Butlin	29	20	4.....53
Mr. W. D. Braidwood...	24	21	5.....50

All the spoons were engraved "H.K.R.A. Jubilee 1841-1891."

THE UNION CHURCH AND THE JUBILEE.

At the Union Church on Sunday morning, 25th January, Rev. G. H. Bondfield made appropriate reference to the Jubilee of the Colony. Basing his discourse on Isaiah's prophecy concerning Tyre, he instituted an interesting comparison between the commercial importance of that ancient seaport town and the greatness of our own country as a maritime Power, alluding in particular to the progress this colony has made

during the fifty years of its British occupation. Its prosperity was evidenced in many ways, but he pointed out one or two grievances which he considered ought to be redressed. In this connection he spoke of the absence of playground spaces for boys and girls, of mad speculation and its ruinous results, and of Sunday labour and its demoralising effects, re-echoing and emphasising the words of Bishop Burdon at the Jubilee service in the Cathedral on Wednesday. The choral part of the service was fittingly selected, the National Thanksgiving being one of the hymns sung.

HONGKONG INDUSTRIES, 1891.

Hongkong, in addition to being a prosperous commercial port, must be regarded as a growing manufacturing centre, and in this respect has many advantages, not the least of which are the natural industry of the native and his aptitude in all the skilful arts. With a plentiful supply of patient workmen, Hongkong must eventually become, if not so already, the most important industrial centre of the Far East.

A visitor to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of 1886 would, on visiting our Court, conclude that Hongkong had no industries to exhibit. The Court named after this colony made doubtless an interesting show, but its industries were practically unrepresented, a few notable exceptions notwithstanding. Reports on the industries of most countries represented were made by members of the "Commercial Exchange," but nothing from this Colony was found of sufficient interest to attract attention. This is much to be regretted, as the Colonial and Indian Exhibition was eminently an opportunity not to be lost for displaying the skilful arts practised here.

Much has been done to educate the European and native youth of the colony in the three R's, but nothing has hitherto been done in the way of technical education, which now receives so much attention at home; much might be done to foster and stimulate a healthy interest in all branches of handicraft by local exhibitions on a small scale, such as the "Arts and Crafts Exhibition" now held at home, where prominence could be given to economy of labour and good design.

The practice of the handicrafts in Hongkong appears to be entirely in the hands of the Chinese; there is a considerable European population, but few are mechanics, and the Portuguese decline all forms of labour, the aspirations of both running towards the counting-house and the banker's desk.

One marked feature of the industries of the Colony is the absence of co-operation, and consequently the limited capabilities of the manufacturer. Several attempts have been made, by European capitalists, to develop industries on a large scale, but, with a few notable

exceptions, such as the Docks and Sugar Refineries, these have been but a partial success, chiefly from excessive outlay on unsuitable or unprofitable machinery and the ignorance of the directing powers, which was often only second to that of their advisers.

So unobtrusive are the manufactures of the Colony that the reader will probably be impatient to know where and what they are. To enlighten him on this point will be our aim. Owing to cheaper rents for shops and dwellings many of the workshops are to be found in Yau-ma-tee, which is a place fast growing to important dimensions. Here will be found in small, inconvenient, and out-of-the-way places the glass blowers, constantly and profitably employed—at present it is true in the manufacture of insignificant articles, and with broken pieces of European glass collected from door to door in the city; but this industry only requires European direction to develop the glass trade, for which the materials are to hand in ample quantities. In this district also are located the brassfounders, who manufacture annually very large quantities of brass hinges, door bolts, cabin hooks, and general builder's brass ware. It is true the proper alloys are not yet used and the handwork is of the most primitive and laborious description, but the results are no less surprising than the methods adopted to attain them and the prices the goods are sold at. Here, too, is the feather cleaning and selecting warehouse, giving occupation to many women and children, and where by simple presses the feathers are packed. A valuable trade is done with Germany and elsewhere in exporting feathers. Vast piles of canes and ill-shaped sticks, from the distant province of Yunnan, are also treated daily and reduced to order and regularity, previous to shipping to Europe to be finished up into walking sticks and umbrella handles. The Registrar-General's returns are evidence of the quantities of soy manufactured, from beans, in Yau-ma-tee, where the limits of the factory are being constantly enlarged, and where some half-dozen houses are taken up with remodelling old casks, for exporting this commodity to Europe, to return again to our tables in the shape of sauce. Our friends in England little know that they are indebted to Hongkong for the bases of some of their well-known and appetising sauces. "here is no straw, and they say, Make bricks" was the cry of the Israelites when in bondage and oppressed by the Egyptians; and while we are recording successes we must, as faithful chroniclers, not omit to mention a disastrous experiment in this district to make bricks without clay. This failure is to be recorded against the European, who, mistaking the unctuous red earth, so much used to make mortar, for clay, had spent considerable amounts ere he discovered that bricks cannot be made without clay. In Yau-ma-tee and on the shore to the north of it are the great timber yards that supply the builders, where the soft woods of northern

climes and the hard woods of the tropics are stored, from Borneo and Bangkok and from China and Canada; from the smallest spar to the largest Oregon pine ("Douglas fir") mast ninety and more feet in length. Large stocks are often kept of that most reliable and useful timber the China fir (*Cunninghamia Sinensis*), which is hewn hundreds of miles above Canton, sawn into 3-in. deals at Fatshan, and stored here in dry and airy sheds for sale. Ample stocks of Siam and Borneo woods are kept, as well as the hardwoods for Canton "blackwood" furniture, so much prized by many, as also camphor wood, often found in planks nearly 3 feet wide, and used to make the well-known camphor wood boxes, shiploads of which are annually made and exported from Yau-ma-tee alone.

On the Kowloon Peninsula are the Hungham and Cosmopolitan Docks of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, to fully appreciate the capacity of which for work and the extent of the premises and machinery the reader must pay a personal visit. Here may be said to be focussed all the trades and artifices, be it in brass, iron, or wood, where the best trained and most intelligent supervision is found, and where, by the methods adopted for educating the workmen, the best and most skilled artificers of the Colony are employed. The works are capable of turning out, as they have done, anything from a walking stick ferrule to a compound surface condensing engine of the most approved type and highest class of workmanship; its docks, the number of which is many, will accommodate the pleasure-seeker's yacht, the modern ocean-going leviathans, or the largest naval monstrosity extant. The capital invested in this concern amounts to no less than \$1,500,000 yielding 10 per cent to the shareholders; whose shares are now at 87 per cent. premium, proving the advantages of combining capital under efficient direction.

Leaving Kowloon, we find as competitors with the Dock Company numerous and prosperous firms whose success has been made by private enterprise, and second in importance only as to size are the firms of Messrs. Fenwick & Co., Limited, Messrs. A. G. Gordon & Co., Limited, Kwong Hep Loong, Hep Tai Loong, Kerr & Co., and very many others of good repute. A most interesting instance of the native skill is now to be seen in a steel vessel for the Canton river trade, the engines and boilers being entirely of local native manufacture, consisting of compound surface condensing twin screw engines of 360 n. horse-power, the workmanship and design being apparently of the most approved type. The vessel is built of steel fitted together in England and shipped to Hongkong in sections.

East and west of the city are located the ironfounders, who turn out castings of all kinds, often of two and three tons weight, the wonder being that such should be possible with the simple appliances and generally cramped spaces available.

With a foreign population, in China and the Far East, of between 50,000, and 75,000, it is not surprising that the demand for European furniture and household requisites should be considerable, still less that the demand should be promptly met, and that the Chinaman, in this line, should so readily have adapted his notions to those of his customers. Of course it will be readily understood that a small European population like that of Hongkong is soon supplied, but the export trade is constantly increasing with the Coast Ports of China, Siam, Tonkin, the Straits, the Sandwich Islands, and the Philippines (the value of the furniture exported to the latter being probably not less than \$60,000 a year). A new venture of which we recently gave some particulars is likely to do much to improve the design and reduce the cost of furniture, having a most efficient plant and staff of men now in full working order under experienced direction.

In the cabinetmaker's trade, more particularly, would the technical education, before referred to, be most appreciated, and in this particular line would exhibitions be most instructive, giving the workman an additional incentive to cultivate a greater skill and adopt better devices, tools, and designs. Compared with Indian or Japanese workers, the Chinese mechanic appears to lack that intuitive appreciation of the beautiful in form and colour which is so marked a feature in the work of the two first-named people. That this is not altogether the case we believe there is no inconsiderable evidence to prove, and the manifest advantages to the trade and prosperity of the Colony, not less than our own credit as an art-loving nation should impel our Government to at once take some measures to mould and train the material at hand in the right direction. Need we mention the strong dividing line between good and indifferent work made in our own country by the great epoch-marking Exhibition of 1851, in which our artificers were enabled to compare their native products with each other and with those of foreign nations. The taste which is growing in England and has already gained much ground for comfort, convenience, and elegance in the appointment of the household, is slowly but surely gaining ground in England's dependencies. The architect who designs the house is now more often consulted as to the furniture, and, where this personage has had the necessary training, he must be able to exercise a whole-some influence over his client's tastes and the workman's execution. Then will the decorative arts flourish, much to the advantage of the community, aesthetically and commercially, and whereby our dwellings and furniture will record the life and manners of our time, and make our houses something more than so much brick or stone, with so many apertures for light and traffic, which marks the dwellings of the people we in a measure govern.

If the reader grants us his indulgence for this

digression, we will ask him to follow us through the tortuous byways and crowded workshops of Victoria, and as our time and space are now becoming limited, we will speed faster by hailing a 'ricksha for a spin along Queen's Road eastwards. The introduction of the public conveyance in which we are travelling is another illustration of the readiness of the native to adapt himself to the demands of the day; for, after a brief resistance, the jolty 'ricksha has lost its novelty and become an established trade for the builder and employment for many coolies. Of these conveyances there are over 1,000 licensed by the Police, nearly all of which have to be repainted and inspected three or four times a year. There is, besides the local business, a considerable export trade to Singapore, Tonkin, and other places, one shop alone exporting about 900 annually, and quite recently we heard of a shipment of 2,000. The price of the street conveyance is about \$22, and we believe that very shortly most of the business between Japan and the Straits must all be intercepted in Hongkong.

We halt now to examine some of the better class of camphor wood boxes, the best of which sell at about \$3 each, brass bound and with bell locks and strong handles; these are all blind dovetailed and of the most substantial description. Probably no Hongkong work is to be found so widespread over the world as these boxes. Panama, San Francisco, Honolulu, Sandakan, the Cape, and Europe are among the most distant markets. One firm (and there must be 150 doing the same business) manufactures about 6,000 boxes a year, on which there is probably an average net profit of not less than \$1 a box.

Passing along the Eastern Praya we see a large number of boatbuilding shops, all with something on the stocks, and which are known to be capable of turning out anything from a Toothpick to an eight-oar "Clasper,"—the race of 1890 being won in a boat built at Wanchai, in the short time of 6 min. 31 sec. Here may be seen lead and silver ore smelted with a blast from a hand bellows and the Noble metal reduced for the goldsmith's use, the crushed ore being mixed with galena and some flux and fused together, the lead being separated from the gold by a subsequent process. Where do the precious ores come from? The privilege granted us to view these works was under the pledge of secrecy on this interesting point, and we will turn attention to ginger and joss sticks; the former trade being conducted by a company. The China ginger cannot, however, compete in the European market with Jamaica and other ginger, either as to price or quality, for medicinal purposes, and the business is chiefly confined to the preparation of the ordinary table ginger. The small joss-stick, like the "relic business" of Jerusalem, is a very extensive business, and whether we view it as a religious emblem or as an agreeable deodoriser it is as innocent as it is

delusive. Not so is the nameless "sweet stuff" packed close by, in large quantities, in vinegar (sic) for the delectation of Singapore's thousands.

Continuing on our eastward journey we view the sugar refineries. The China Sugar Refining Company has two establishments, one at East Point and one at Bowrington, and the Taikoo Sugar Refining Company's establishment at Quarry Bay has called a considerable village into existence around it. The industry affords direct employment to between fifty and sixty Europeans and many hundreds of Chinese, and many subsidiary industries are indirectly fostered by it. The noble groves of banyan, giant fern, and shady palm which shelter us past the polo ground haunt us with the recollection that here is the abode of malaria where no white man can live, and which has to be without European police protection owing to the deadly nature of its miasma. Not far from here is a fine building intended for the manufacture of saki for the Japanese, but which was effectually stifled by the imposition of a heavy duty by the Japanese Government on all imported saki. Proceeding along a pleasant drive, and passing the Taikoo Sugar Refinery already mentioned, we reach Shaukwan, at once the quarryman's and pirate's rendezvous, and now a prosperous market town for the boat people, who find here shelter and good anchorage at all times. This place, apart from its piratical history, is also noted for the quantity and quality of its granite quarries, presenting as they do a bold and precipitous front to the harbour with their deep gashes and steep slides 1,000 feet long, where the stone is "got" and slid down to the lower levels. Much of the trade that would be done here is diverted to the quarries of the mainland by the objectionable system of granting to one man the monopoly of all quarries in the colony for a term of three years. It is true that it saves trouble and brings in a good round sum, for the monopolist pays \$30,000 for the privilege, in return for which he does nothing; he makes no roads nor opens any quarries; this he allows the quarryman at his sweet will to do as of old, and takes 14 per cent. of the gross sales of stone, placing at each quarry a man to conduct this second-hand government squeeze. Of course this falls on the buyer, and if possible he gets his stone where the tax does not exist. This may be one of the reasons why our roads are so bad and good fresh stone used so sparingly.

Ten cents will carry us back by water to Victoria in a fairly comfortable launch, a journey of six or seven miles. Hongkong revels in its display of launches of all sorts and sizes, it being estimated that there are between 90 and 100 licensed boats all built and engined in Hongkong. We land near Mr. Dorabjee's well-known hostelry and continue on: 'ricksha ride now in a westward direction along the Quay, or Praya, glancing at the brass workers, sandalwood shops,

and rice pounders, where the ear is pleased with the lively rattle of many workers who spend their lives in pounding the husks off the paddy in a painfully tedious manner, but which is more effective and economical than any machinery yet invented. In the extreme west are the rope works, glass works, and silk weaving factory. The two former are closed at present. The glass works in particular is a standing monument of the folly of allowing the blind to lead the blind; a most elaborate plant was laid down, but which could not be profitably run, owing, it is alleged, to the costliness of the materials, chiefly the alkali's, and the cost of European supervision. The rope works have given good results, but when the raw material is scarce or expensive the works are occasionally closed. It is not generally known that a silk weaving factory is now at work, giving employment to many "hands" and forming the germ of what we hope will become a considerable industry. Numerous Jacquard looms are at work to weave the silk, which is imported from Shanghai, being considered of better quality than that of Canton. After being washed the silk goes through the process of reeling, winding, twisting, and weighing in skeins of 1,000 yards, after which it is wound into a cop on the bobbins to form the woof or weft and woven in plain and figured silks, the Jacquard draw-loom being considered the most perfect of its kind for this purpose. The motive power is provided by a 16 horse power Priestman's oil engine making 160 revolutions per minute, the largest that has hitherto been made. These oil engines have been but two or three years in existence and promise to be very serviceable. The mill hands are principally women and they have proved very adept in learning their work. This is the only textile manufacture we are aware of in the Colony.

Leaving the western districts and returning cityward, we visit the vermilion factory, where we see the process of triturating the Mercury (quicksilver) with sulphur, when it is sublimed under a moderate heat and afterwards ground with water very finely, for which there are thirty hand-mills employed; the water is then evaporated by heat, and this beautiful and permanent pigment is ready for packing. Our readers are familiar with the lead foil used for packing tea, the process of making which can be seen in this locality, all the appliances being a pot of molten lead, a ladle, and two red floor tiles covered with cloth. A ladleful is thrown between the tiles and squeezed out at all sides by pressure on the upper tile, when the sheets are made ready for soldering together in wood boxes, of which it is safe to say hundreds of thousands are made annually for packing tea and a variety of other uses. The trade of manufacturing carved "blackwood" furniture for export to Europe and America is rapidly increasing, to the discomfiture of this

industry in Canton, a visit to these painstaking and skilful carvers being very interesting; as also the rattan workers, who not only prepare the rattan itself for exporting but also manufacture enormous quantities of chairs, &c., for export to Europe, the Cape Colony, Australia, &c. The cooper's trade appears to be flourishing, the output of casks from only one shop being between 1,000 and 2,000 a month at prices from \$1.75 to \$2 each; the imports of hoop iron for this work alone are considerable. The tin men occupy the more central district, and when it is remembered that the empty oil tins number annually over 1½ million, almost the whole of which are used up for making household and cooking utensils, lanterns, &c., &c., the amount of money earned from this trade must be great.

Our reader who has followed us thus far will remember that we introduced him to the gold refiners, the gold thus prepared being, however, too pure and soft for any but the most massive work. The Canton workmen have long been known for their skill as gold and silver workers and there, up to very recently, all orders had to be sent from Hongkong. This is now no longer necessary, as owing to the education of the Hongkong workmen and the removal of many of the most skilled men from Canton to Hongkong the best class of work is now done in the colony. The gold used is chiefly obtained from the American "Eagle," the gold of which, being alloyed with about one-ninth of its weight of copper, presents the requisite hardness and colour. The large stocks kept and flourishing condition of the many jewellers' shops attest to the extent of this trade. In Hongkong nearly all the silverware for "cups" and ornamental purposes is made for Singapore and the Coast ports, the workmanship being very good, leaving however much room for improvement as to design and many laurels to be won by our future art schools in teaching the native craftsman how to emulate those graceful outlines, and symmetrical forms which characterise the 19th century work in Europe.

We have not mentioned the stoneware manufactures, for besides the fire stove work at Yau-ma-tee, there are none in the Colony, except the works at Little Hongkong, belonging to a public company. Here, after many unfortunate ex-

periments and much unnecessary waste of funds, success seems to have been attained in the manufacture of drain pipes, fire bricks, and tiles. These articles are now turned out equal to the best home manufacture and at moderate prices, and as there is ample supply of clay of the best quality there would appear to be many years of successful operations before the company. We may here mention what should have been a Hongkong stoneware industry, the works of the Green Island Cement Co., Ltd. where, after a large portion of the capital had been lost on experiments, successful operations are now being conducted, and where Hongkong capitalists have invested no less than \$1,000,000. We have not overlooked the gas and electric light works; the paper works not yet in working order; the Dairy Farm, where in no insinuating sense we say that milk and butter are "manufactured." This is an industry involving a paid-up capital of \$100,000, and whose profits last year amounted to \$10,000. The Hongkong waters abound in fish, which are dried and exported in large quantities, in company with thousands of dried ducks. The bakeries are many and the bread good, made chiefly as it is from California flour, of which there are 50,000 tons imported annually. Photography is of established industry, and the highest class of work is undertaken from the simple silver prints to the latest developments of the carbes, or Woodbury processes as everyday occurrences. Ice works and soda water produce visions of heat and thirst; the former yields to its fortunate shareholders an annual dividend of 1½ per cent. on a capital of \$125,000; the latter, in combination with the chemists' nostrums, produces 14 per cent. on a very small working capital, and is "equal to the best."

Enough has been said to show the vast extent and variety of the industries of this juvenile Colony, where wise laws and stable government, security of property and freedom of the subject, have combined with its unique geographical position to raise a barren waste to the enviable position of third port in the Empire, and not the least brilliant of the many units which help to form the glorious Empire on which the sun never sets.

WILL BE READY IN A FEW DAYS.

THE
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